

Departments Reports



2024-2025

18TH ANNUAL

GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Uniting the Imams in Preserving Islam

ANIC HALAL AUTHORITY SUMMARY REPORT 2025



Key Achievements

- Extension of Major Deal with Coles Across Australian Stores
- Last year opportunities are now ANIC Halal customers including bakeries and pasta companies.



Key Achievements

- Expanding on Deal with 7-Eleven Retail



Key Achievements

- Extension to Woolworths retail contract



Key Achievements

- Team has grown to 4 staff to help facilitate next phase of growth
- Cheesecake shop stores certification growing with more stores certified



Opportunities

In talks with a number of medium to large production companies

Opportunities

In talks with second Domestic abattoir

Opportunities

In Talk with Large fast food Chain

Opportunities

Continous expansion of current relationships

Opportunities

Expanding on Coles Halal range discussions under way



Key Achievements

- Recognition by Malaysia and Singapore strengthened

Pending

- BPJPH Indonesia recognition very close to completion

Next Milestone

- Securing recognition from GCC





Financial Achievement

ANIC HALAL Authority has achieved year on year growth through expansion of current certifications and new customers onboarded.

Due to this financial position, we have been able to applying and fund Indonesia accreditation application and starting to explore GCC accreditation while extending our Malaysia and Singapore accreditation.





Thank You





Annual General Members Report

ANIC AGM Meeting – 12 October 2025

Department Name:

Action Against Islamophobia (AAI)

Reporting Officer:

Name: Mariam Ardati

Position: Project Manager

Presenter:

1. Introduction

This past year has been marked by significant social, political, and cultural challenges for Muslim communities in Australia, particularly following the escalation of the Israeli War on Gaza. ANIC has been at the forefront of addressing the resulting rise in Islamophobia and anti-Palestinian racism.

Through the \$1 million Social Cohesion Measures Grant, ANIC established the Action Against Islamophobia (AAI) platform, rolled out a new website, resources and reporting tools, educational campaigns, provided victim support, and strengthened national advocacy. This work reflects ANIC's vision to uphold justice, dignity, and safety for Muslims in Australia, while reinforcing its mission to protect religious freedoms, support Imams and community leaders, and foster inclusive public dialogue.

2. Key Achievements – Past 12 Months

Provide a concise yet detailed account of major accomplishments:

Community Representation & Advocacy

- Direct lobbying with NSW Police Commissioner and Victoria Police Commissioner to address systemic inaction on Islamophobic incidents.
- Media advocacy: nine national media interviews highlighting high-profile hate crime cases (e.g., Kmart Bankstown and Sefton assaults).
- Engagement with NSW Education and Multicultural NSW for broader adoption of anti-Islamophobia resources
- Engagement with local councils on combating Islamophobia within communities.
- 9 public statements on Islamophobic incidents and calls to action
- Case managed 89 reported incidents and provided victim support and referrals to legal and mental health services.

Religious Guidance & Fatwa Services

- National Khutba as part of the March 15 campaign (International day to Combat Islamophobia)

Training & Education



- Delivered national pilot workshops on Islamophobia in NSW, VIC, and QLD, with over 500 participants. This includes workshops facilitated for Imams and community leaders, women, and young people both online and in-person.
- Produced teacher guides, youth-focused workbooks, and state-customised legal and mental health resources to combat Islamophobia.
- Established a national Support Line

Public Campaigns & Events

- Launched AAI reporting platform (<https://actionagainstislamophobia.org.au>), recording 6,298 visits and 79 formal reports within the first 8 months.
- Ran national anti-racism and myth-busting campaigns; organic social media reach exceeded 60,000 video views, despite paid ads being blocked by Meta.
- Partnered with All Together Now for media literacy and fact-checking initiatives for Imams and community leaders.
- Launched the first National annual March 15 campaign
- Conducted a national survey into anti-Palestinian racism and Islamophobia in tertiary institutions
- NSW Anti-Islamophobia billboard campaign launched in February 2025.

Support to Member Organisations

- Established case management teams in NSW and VIC to handle reported incidents.
- Supported Imams and community leaders with training materials to respond to hate crimes.
- Strengthened partnerships with educational institutions and media stakeholders.

International Engagement

- ANIC's advocacy aligned with global frameworks such as the UN National Day to Combat Islamophobia
- Compiled and submitted report to Turkish Government on Islamophobia and Anti-Muslim hate in Australia.
- Met and consulted with Muslim Council of Britain on UK Islamophobia initiatives

3. Challenges & Lessons Learned

Internal Challenges

- Limited staffing capacity led to high workloads and risk of burnout for community-facing staff.
- Reliance on external technical resources caused delays in platform development

External Challenges

- Meta blocked paid anti-racism advertising campaigns, significantly limiting reach.
- Public backlash and political sensitivities required careful, values-based communications.
- Persistent mistrust between communities and law enforcement limited reporting outcomes.

Responses

- Pivoted to organic campaigns and mobilised community networks.
- Secured long-term funding for specialist staff in resource development, case management and education.



- Initiated partnerships with NSW Police Hate Crimes Unit and began planning training modules for law enforcement
- Initiated collaboration with NSW Department of Education to create co-designed resources to combat Islamophobia in schools.

4. Financial Summary (Overview Only), if applicable.

- Total Income & Expenditure: \$1,000,000 (fully acquitted July 2025).
- Funding Source: Commonwealth Social Cohesion Measures Grant – Large Projects & National Support.
- Allocations:
 - Platform and CRM development
 - Case management and victim support services
 - Educational resources and workshops
 - Media campaigns and advocacy

Financial health remains stable, with secured funding for the next two years to expand programs, outreach and staffing.

5. Looking Ahead – Goals for the Next 12 Months

Outline what the department aims to achieve in the coming year:

Strategic Priorities

- Scale national reporting and victim support services.
- Strengthen engagement with NSW police, local councils, Department of Education, and Muslim community stakeholders.
- Develop compulsory religious sensitivity training modules for law enforcement and schools/ educators.

Key Initiatives Planned

- Rollout of accredited teacher training programs.
- Expansion of state-customised educational packs nationwide.
- Collaborate with NSW local and regional councils on anti-racism initiatives.
- Establishment and pilot inter-agency protocols for incident referral and support with NSW Hate Crimes Unit.

Capacity Building

- Recruitment of specialist staff in case management and education.
- Technical upgrades to CRM and website systems.

Engagement

- Formalise partnerships with NSW Department of Education, NSW Police and local councils.
- Extend community outreach through mosques, schools, and youth networks.

6. Recommendations & Call to Action

- Members are encouraged to actively support the national rollout of ANIC's anti-Islamophobia resources.
- Imams and community leaders should promote the AAI platform in their networks and encourage volunteers to reach out via the website.



- ANIC calls for unified advocacy towards stronger platform accountability (Meta, social media companies) and improved police responsiveness to hate crimes

7. Closing & Acknowledgements

ANIC acknowledges the tireless work of Imams, staff, volunteers, and community leaders who carried the burden of advocacy and awareness during a year of heightened Islamophobia. We extend gratitude to our government partners, stakeholders, and the broader Australian community who stood in solidarity with Muslim communities. We reaffirm our commitment to justice, inclusion, and dignity for all, and to continuing our leadership in combating Islamophobia nationally.

Please attach a financial report or any other relevant documents, if applicable



Annual General Members Report

ANIC AGM Meeting – 12 October 2025

Department Name: Advocacy and Media

Reporting Officer

Name: Zayd Jenzarli

Position: Advocate and Media Officer

Presenter: ...

1. Introduction

- To influence key decision makers in government, media, and civil society on matters of most concern to Muslims in Australia to protect and advance the welfare of the Muslim community.
- To coordinate a unified Muslim voice and collaborative representation in the Australian media.
- This year saw many significant events which concern this department.

Summary of Major Events Impacting the Muslim Community

1. The ongoing genocide in Gaza.
2. Rise in Islamophobia and anti-Muslim sentiment post – October 7.
3. Developments in legislation concerning discrimination and religious freedom in schooling.
4. National media coverage of Palestine, and our community's response.

2. Key Achievements – Past 12 Months

Provide a concise yet detailed account of major accomplishments:

- Consultations with Muslim lawyers from the Racial Justice Centre on newly announced legislation.
- Attended three reviews of the Crimes Amendment (Inciting Racial Hatred) Bill 2025 with the Faith Affairs Council and the NSWLRC.
- Attended in a consultation for the review of the Anti-Discrimination Act
- Engaged with political advisors from Delta Advisory to inform strategy.
- Engaged with MPs to amplify Palestinian voices in state parliament throughout the year, and on particularly important dates such as the Nakba and the International Day to Combat Islamophobia
- Submitted to the New South Wales Law Reform Commission's Anti-Discrimination Act review.
- Proactively engaged with think-tanks who announced that they will conduct a 3-year study on Anti-Semitism, and other forms of hatred such as Islamophobia. Studies such as these influence policy in the future.
- Engaged with local MP's voicing the community's concerns regarding Palestine, the genocide, humanitarian aid, Palestinian refugees in Australia



- Met in Canberra with the PM and other ministers to directly discuss Palestine, recognition of Palestinian statehood, the humanitarian situation and aid, and ensuring Australia is not complicit in genocide.
- Attended a Multicultural NSW Anti-Racism consultation to provide feedback to government on how to better combat Islamophobia, anti-Muslim sentiment, and other forms of racism relevant to the Muslim community.
- Engaged with MP's who were actively and consistently supportive of Palestine in Parliament and on social media.
- Secured a meeting with Safework NSW to discuss a report made on USYD that claimed Palestinian flags, symbols, and flags bearing Arabic script constituted antisemitism.
- Actively monitored parliamentary inquiries relevant to the Muslim community and informed strategy through summaries accordingly.
- Actively monitored statements of MP's and media articles.
- Sent in 10 complaints to the APC over problematic written articles. Successes were seen with a few articles
- Public statements were used in various media articles, amplifying Muslim perspectives in media.
- Connected with various community members to produce Muslim stories in media through the 'Rewrite the Narrative' email campaign.
- Arranged contact with high-profile media people who made inflammatory comments against Muslims.
- Engaged with journalists who wrote about Islamophobia, the threats made against Mosques this year, racist graffiti and vandalism incidents, and Islamophobic assaults.
- Monitored
- Built new relationships with journalists and media commentators, who are outspoken and supportive of Muslim issue - this year Palestine was the main issue.
- Represented Islam and Muslims in miscellaneous articles - this year an article was written on spaces where people to cope with stress - Sh Ahmad Abdo shared with the journalist the Muslim perspective and the importance of mosques as spaces of tranquillity.
- Planned a meeting with the Australian Press Council to discuss Muslim concerns regarding media standards and guidelines.

3. Challenges & Lessons Learned

- Better platforms can be used to manage advocacy action items, tracking, and relationship management. Current platforms can sometimes be limited in its information on committees, inquiries, and what can be done with that information.
- Lack of available people for media enquiries.

5. Looking Ahead – Goals for the Next 12 Months

Outline what the department aims to achieve in the coming year:

- Engage with relevant government relations firms, political advisors to upskill, and map-out strategy for the year. This should be documented and referred to in the work we do.
- Standardising a process for certain advocacy and media actions.



- Standardising document organisation and implementing a system to use the information contained in relevant documents.
- Following up on relevant departments of government to working towards implementing the recommendations of Aftab Malik, the Islamophobia Envoy.
- A workshop and presentation on reporting on Islam for journalists. Intend to connect them with community members who give their perspective on issues that are commonly discussed in an inflammatory manner – this year engaging with newly arrived Palestinian refugees is timely and will improve Muslim/migrant perception in media and wider public. Challenge the narrative that newly arrived refugees are not good for Australian society.
- Hold a media training meeting with ANIC Imams to upskill and produce more members available for comment on media enquiries. When messages come from Imams and Sheikhs, they are quite powerful.

6. Recommendations & Call to Action

- Urge your community members to be vocal about any Islamophobic incidents they experience, and to report them through our online tools, so that we can continue to progress in this field.
- Inform us of any positive Muslim stories which you think would be worthy of bringing the media's attention towards.
- If there is any feedback, or ideas that you would like to share with us that you think falls within the scope of this department, please email me at zayd.jenzarli@anic.org.au

7. Closing & Acknowledgements



Annual General Members Report

ANIC AGM Meeting – 12 October 2025

Department Name: AIES SRE Program

Reporting Officer:

Name: Nadine Yakmor

Position: SRE Program Manager

Presenter:

1. Introduction

The Australian Islamic Education Services (AIES) is the official body entrusted by the Australian National Imams Council to oversee and coordinate Islamic Special Religious Education (SRE) across New South Wales and other participating states.

Our primary mission is to ensure that Muslim students in public schools receive authentic, age-appropriate Islamic education through the SRE framework—delivered by well-trained volunteers using structured and approved syllabuses.

Driven by our vision to nurture confident, informed and spiritually grounded Muslim youth, AIES aims to raise a generation proud of their Islamic identity and committed to being positive, respectful contributors to Australian society.

We play a central role in:

- Building strong partnerships between schools, families, communities and SRE volunteers
- Supporting curriculum development that is engaging, relevant and aligned with educational standards
- Providing continuous training, recognition and support for our growing network of educators
- Maintaining active collaboration with government education departments and key stakeholders

As the program continues to expand—now reaching 48 schools with near full classroom coverage and approximately 4,500 students—we remain committed to upholding the integrity, professionalism and Islamic values that define the SRE experience.

AIES is more than an administrative body; it is a bridge between communities and classrooms, ensuring that Islamic education is delivered with excellence, compassion and purpose.



A Year of Growth and Impact for the SRE Program

2025 marked a transformative year for the AIES SRE program, with significant growth across all areas. We saw a steady rise in student enrolments, increased interest from new volunteers and the successful expansion of Islamic SRE into more schools—demonstrating the community’s trust and growing engagement with the program.

At the end of October 2024, Islamic SRE was being delivered in 30 schools. Today, that number has grown to 48 schools, with 4 more currently onboarding for early 2026—a testament to the strong demand and the efforts made by the AIES team to extend our reach.

To meet this growing need, AIES undertook targeted initiatives to raise awareness of the SRE program, actively recruit and onboard volunteers and establish new partnerships with schools. Notably, we went from onboarding just 1 new volunteer in 2024 to having over 70 newly trained volunteers by 2025.

In addition, classroom coverage across our schools has dramatically improved, rising from approximately 60% teacher coverage in 2024 to an outstanding 99% teacher coverage of all Islamic scripture classes in 2025.

	October 2024	September 2025
Onboarded Schools	30	48
AIES trained new volunteers	1	77
Classes covered by teacher	60%	99%
Enrolled students	3614	4378

Another major milestone this year was the improvement of our curriculum. Initially, a single dedicated sister took on the monumental task of compiling four full syllabuses a year—one for each school term—on her own. Recognising the need to support and scale this effort, we established a Syllabus Development Team of three members. This team brought fresh perspectives and significantly improved the quality, depth and consistency of our lesson content. All designed to make preparation easier and more effective for our volunteers.

Thanks to their efforts, the syllabus now includes:

- Engaging PowerPoint slides
- Helpful teaching links and resources
- Streamlined lesson plans

To further support our educators, AIES hosted several events throughout the year focused on training, recognition and ongoing development, reinforcing our commitment to nurturing a strong, confident and well-supported volunteer base.

We are also currently in the process of redeveloping our website to make it more user-friendly, visually appealing, and engaging. The new site will serve as a central hub, where volunteers can easily access lesson materials and PowerPoint slides. It will also include a



dedicated page for donations. We have also gathered a valuable collection of AIES design assets.

This year's achievements are a true testament to the dedication of our volunteers, the unwavering support of our community, the leadership of our President, Imam Shadi Alsuleiman and above all, the blessings of Allah.

We look forward to building on this momentum as we move into 2026 and beyond, inshaAllah.

2. Key Achievements – Past 12 Months

Provide a concise yet detailed account of major accomplishments:

- **Community Representation & Advocacy:**

This year, the department has strengthened its role as a key representative of the Muslim community through active engagement with government bodies and interfaith organisations. A major focus has been ongoing collaboration with the Department of Education to streamline the onboarding process for new schools wishing to offer Islamic SRE. Through regular meetings, we have addressed common challenges—such as concerns regarding principals, SRE coordinators, and administrative support—that affect the onboarding and delivery process of the SRE program.

In partnership with other approved faith groups, we have fostered a cooperative approach by attending joint meetings at individual schools to address shared concerns and challenges. This united front allows us to advocate more effectively for consistent policies, improved accountability and fair treatment of all religious education providers. Together, we have contributed to the development of an escalation process to address and resolve problems with schools or principals that may hinder the smooth operation of SRE programs.

Additionally, we collaborated with Muslim Student Associations from four different universities to raise awareness about the AIES SRE program through a joint video campaign. As a result, we attracted several new volunteer applicants who are now undergoing training.

These collective efforts not only enhance the quality and accessibility of SRE for students but also reinforce the importance of religious education as a valued component of Australia's diverse educational landscape.

- **Religious Guidance & Fatwa Services:**

Through social media posts and outreach, we reiterated the significance of dawah to our youth—emphasizing their responsibility and opportunity to share and live by their faith. We highlighted key Islamic concepts, such as the immense rewards of sadaqah jariyah (continuous charity), encouraging ongoing acts of kindness and generosity.

These efforts are closely aligned with the goals of the AIES SRE program, which aims to inspire and educate young Muslims within public schools. By fostering a deeper understanding of their faith, the program motivates students to engage positively within their



families and the wider community, strengthening both personal and communal Islamic identity.

- **Training & Education:**

This year, AIES enhanced its Introduction Training for all new SRE volunteers, tailoring the content to better suit the high school environment and the unique challenges it presents. A significant focus was placed on Child Safe Policies, ensuring all volunteers are well-versed in safeguarding practices and understand their responsibilities to provide a safe, respectful and supportive learning environment for all students.

To further support volunteer development, we organised a behavioural course led by Ustadh Ali Assad, focused on equipping volunteers with effective strategies for positive classroom behaviour management.

These initiatives have strengthened the skills and confidence of our volunteers, enabling them to deliver engaging and well-managed lessons that prioritise student wellbeing and foster a positive learning atmosphere

- **Public Campaigns & Events:**

This year, we will be engaging with the community through several key events and campaigns. We will be holding a stall at the upcoming IFAM Convention to raise awareness about the Islamic SRE program and to recruit new volunteers.

In addition to our ongoing community engagement efforts, we have organised a Special Religious Education (SRE) Information Session for parents and carers at Birrong Boys High School in November.

This event serves as an important opportunity to:

- Raise awareness about the SRE program within the local community
- Introduce who we are and what we teach their children in SRE classes
- Encourage parents to reinforce Islamic lessons at home by putting them into practice
- Invite interested parents and community members to volunteer as SRE teachers

These initiatives play a vital role in building community support, enhancing transparency and encouraging greater involvement in the Islamic SRE program.

- **National Engagement:**

This year marked significant progress in AIES's efforts to support Islamic SRE on a national level. We proudly assisted a school in Tasmania to establish the first-ever Islamic SRE class in Hobart—a milestone achievement for the Muslim community in the region.

This required aligning elements of the Australian Curriculum with our Islamic Syllabus to meet local education authority requirements, recognising that each state has distinct policies and approval processes for religious education.



In addition, AIES has extended its support to SRE teams in the ACT (Canberra Islamic Education Services) and Queensland (Islamic Council of Queensland), sharing resources and offering guidance to help strengthen and grow their local programs. We are also currently working in collaboration with the Council of Imams Western Australia (CIWA) to explore viable pathways for introducing Islamic SRE in Western Australia — a state where, to date, no formal Islamic scripture program has been established.

These national engagements reflect our commitment to expanding access to Islamic SRE across Australia, ensuring Muslim students in every state have the opportunity to learn about their faith in a structured and supportive environment.

3. Challenges & Lessons Learned

- **Internal:**

Our SRE program's continued expansion is placing increasing strain on our existing structure—particularly given that it's predominantly managed by one full-time staff member supported by volunteers. This setup makes it challenging to raise awareness, support volunteers, undertake all managerial responsibilities and sustain growth effectively.

Volunteer Sustainability

Reliance on volunteers is becoming increasingly difficult due to cost-of-living pressures, with many volunteers needing to return to the workforce. This has created gaps in coverage, especially for schools requiring full-day volunteer support, creating an urgent need for sustainable financial support.

To strengthen our program and ensure its sustainability, we urgently need:

1. Stronger cross-departmental collaboration across the ANIC network—engaging with members, their masajid and community centres—to share knowledge, streamline efforts and broaden our program's reach.
2. Access to dedicated marketing expertise to facilitate greater awareness and implement strategies for increasing community engagement and fundraising potential. Leveraging marketing resources will enable us to better promote the program and explore revenue-generating opportunities.

With expanded collaboration and access to marketing support, alongside sustainable funding for volunteer support, we can solidify the foundation needed for the program's future success and long-term impact—both operationally and financially.

- **External:**

1. Policy Compliance & School Coordination

Challenges:

- Schools and principals sometimes fall short of fully adhering to NSW SRE policy requirements, causing delays and additional workload for AIES.

AIES Actions:



- Maintain regular communication with school principals and administrative staff to clarify SRE policy expectations and requirements.
- Provide clear, accessible guidance and resources to schools to support full compliance with NSW SRE policies.
- Working together with Department of Education to address systemic issues and promote uniform policy enforcement across schools.

2. Demand vs. Volunteer Capacity

Challenges:

- Growing interest from parents in offering SRE clashes with our limited ability to meet demand—mainly due to volunteer shortages.

AIES Actions:

- We have launched targeted volunteer recruitment campaigns through social media posts and outreach to known community members.

3. Restrictions on Political & Social Content

Challenges:

- NSW policy on *Controversial Issues in Schools* restricts SRE facilitators from discussing sensitive political or global issues that affect Muslim youth.
- These limitations can sometimes make it challenging to address students' questions or concerns fully.

AIES Actions:

- Volunteers are guided to respectfully redirect conversations away from political topics to ensure compliance with policy and protect the integrity of the SRE program.

4. Financial Summary (Overview Only), if applicable.

- Total income and expenditure for the year (attach full financial report separately), if applicable.
- Major funding sources and allocations.
- Commentary on financial health and sustainability.

5. Looking Ahead – Goals for the Next 12 Months

Outline what the department aims to achieve in the coming year:

As we continue to grow and strengthen the AIES SRE program, our key goals for the upcoming year focus on steady expansion, quality improvement, deeper community engagement and enhancing financial contributions and stability. InshaAllah, we aim to achieve the following:

1. Expand School Participation

- Steadily increase the number of NSW public schools offering Islamic SRE classes.
- Prioritise outreach to schools in underrepresented regions.

2. Strengthen Volunteer Recruitment and Retention

- Launch targeted recruitment campaigns through masjids, community centres and social media.



- Offer regular training and development opportunities to retain and empower volunteers.

3. Enhance Training Programs

- Provide more structured, ongoing training sessions focusing on the etiquettes of Dawah, lesson delivery, classroom management and student engagement to better equip volunteers for effective teaching and outreach.
- Involve experienced Imams and educators in training facilitation.

4. Increase Community Awareness and Engagement

- Continue weekly social media outreach to promote the program and share success stories.
- Attend more Islamic events and lessons to promote the program and connect with potential volunteers.
- Expand SRE information sessions for parents and carers across multiple schools.

5. Strengthen Collaboration with Imams and ANIC Members

- Personally engage Imams and ANIC members across NSW to promote the program within their local communities and congregations.
- Involve them in recruitment efforts and in supporting the delivery of training sessions.
- Get them to support recruitment by identifying and encouraging potential SRE volunteer teachers from their communities.

6. Develop Financial Sustainability

- Launch a start-up donations campaign within the next 12 months, as there are currently no grants or revenue streams supporting this program.
- Seek assistance from a specialised ANIC marketing team to promote the program and fundraising efforts.
- Explore strategies to make the AIES SRE program financially self-sufficient for long-term sustainability.

7. Improve Access to Resources

- Finalise the redevelopment of the AIES website to serve as a user-friendly hub for lesson plans, PowerPoint slides, volunteer information and donations.

8. Monitor and Evaluate Program Impact

- Develop simple feedback tools for volunteers, students and schools to assess program impact.
- Use data to inform future improvements and strategic decisions.

9. Capacity Building

- Assess the need to recruit an additional staff member to manage administration and volunteer support.
- School onboarding is steadily increasing, creating a greater workload.
- Currently, only one employee manages the program, relying heavily on volunteers in supervisory roles.
- Expanding staff capacity will improve coordination, support and sustainability.



- This will help ensure the program can continue growing effectively and efficiently.

6. Recommendations & Call to Action

Imams and ANIC Members Call to Action

- **Actively Promote the Program:**
Encourage Imams and community leaders to regularly mention and promote the AIES SRE Program during sermons, community gatherings and Islamic events.
- **Facilitate Volunteer Recruitment:**
Support the identification and recruitment of suitable SRE volunteer teachers within your local communities, particularly through your masjid or Islamic centre.
- **Host SRE Information Sessions:**
Offer your masjid or centre as a venue for information sessions to help raise awareness about the program and its benefits.
- **Support Training Delivery:**
Assist with the facilitation or delivery of volunteer training sessions by contributing your time, expertise or venue space.

Call to Action – Requests for Support:

- **Spread the Word:**
Help us increase awareness of the AIES SRE Program by sharing our materials, social media posts and updates within your networks.
- **Provide Feedback and Suggestions:**
Share your insights and recommendations to help us continue refining and improving the program.
- **Assist with Urgent Funding Needs**
We currently require funds to support schools where a full-day volunteer teachers are essential. Previously, this was made possible through funds provided by Penny Appeal, but that funding has now been exhausted.

At present, two schools urgently need termly financial support to continue providing uninterrupted Islamic education. We are seeking immediate assistance to help cover the cost of these placements so that no student misses out on their right to learn about Islam in a supportive and structured environment.

Additional funds would be highly beneficial to support up to two SRE volunteer teachers, enabling them to cover as many classes as possible throughout the week. Reliance on volunteers is becoming increasingly challenging due to cost-of-living pressures, with many needing to return to the workforce.



7. Closing & Acknowledgements

We extend our sincere gratitude to all ANIC members, volunteers and partners for their continued dedication and unwavering support. Your efforts have been instrumental in the growth and success of the AIES SRE program and we deeply appreciate your commitment.

As we move forward, we reaffirm ANIC's steadfast commitment to serving Islam and the Muslim community throughout Australia. Together, with the blessings of Allah, we will continue to nurture faith, knowledge and unity within our communities, inshaAllah.

Please attach a financial report or any other relevant documents, if applicable



Annual General Members Report

ANIC AGM Meeting – 12 October 2025

Department Name: CARD

Reporting Officer:

Name: *Rihab Fares*

Position: Administrative Support Officer

Presenter:

1. Introduction

The "CARD organisation" associated with the Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) is the Centre for Arbitration and Resolution Disputes Ltd (CARD). It's a service and division of ANIC specifically designed to facilitate Islamic mediation and arbitration for marital and community disputes within Australia's Islamic communities, with qualified Imams available to help resolve conflicts in accordance with Islamic Law.

Centre for Arbitration and Resolution Disputes Ltd (CARD)

A division of the Australian National Imams Council (ANIC)

Overview of Departments

CARD operates through core functional areas likely including:

Mediation Services: Islamic dispute resolution, primarily marital and family related.

Arbitration: Formal Islamic arbitration in accordance with Sharia principles.

Community Support & Advisory: Guidance from qualified Imams for broader community disputes.

Education & Outreach: Promoting awareness of Islamic conflict resolution methods.

Purpose

To provide structured, faith-based mediation and arbitration services that help resolve marital and community disputes within Australia's Islamic communities, in accordance with Islamic Law.



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Vision

To be Australia's leading Islamic authority in faith-based dispute resolution, fostering peace, harmony, and justice within Muslim communities.

Mission

To offer accessible, Sharia-compliant mediation and arbitration services led by qualified Imams, supporting the resolution of conflicts in a respectful, ethical, and culturally appropriate manner.

2. Key Achievements – Past 12 Months

Key Achievements – Past 12 Months

Australian National Imams Council (ANIC)

1. Community Representation & Advocacy

- **Government Engagement:** ANIC held formal consultations with federal and state government representatives on issues impacting the Muslim community, including religious freedom, community safety, education policy, and anti-discrimination reforms.
- **Media Advocacy:** ANIC issued several public statements and media responses on matters of national importance, including responses to Islamophobia, support for victims of hate crimes, and clarifying Islamic perspectives on social issues.
- **Interfaith Relations:** Strengthened ties with national interfaith bodies and participated in interfaith forums to promote mutual understanding and social harmony across diverse Australian communities.

2. Religious Guidance & Fatwa Services

- **National Fatwa Announcements:** Delivered unified rulings and guidance on significant religious matters, including the sighting of the moon for Ramadan and Eid, zakat distribution during crises, and Islamic funeral protocols.



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- **Community Statements:** Released timely religious guidance on social and moral issues affecting the community, promoting balanced Islamic responses rooted in the Australian context.
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3. Training & Education

- **Imam Development Workshops:** Conducted a series of in-person and virtual workshops focusing on mental health awareness, youth engagement, effective communication, and leadership within a multicultural society.
 - **Professional Development:** Collaborated with Islamic institutions and academic partners to offer tailored training sessions to Imams and community leaders, including courses on pastoral care, conflict resolution, and community outreach.
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4. Public Campaigns & Events

- **Annual National Imams Conference (2025):** Successfully hosted the conference with representation from across all states and territories, addressing issues such as national unity, religious leadership, and youth challenges.
 - **Community Engagement Forums:** Organised open community meetings in several states, giving the public an opportunity to engage directly with ANIC leadership and raise local concerns.
 - **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Launched campaigns addressing Islamophobia, the importance of unity, and responsible use of social media, which were shared widely through mosques and community platforms.
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5. Support to Member Organisations

- **Funding Assistance & Resources:** Provided administrative and financial support to state-based Islamic councils and affiliated bodies to strengthen local operations and program delivery.
 - **Khutbah Resources & Religious Material:** Distributed centralised weekly khutbahs and updated Islamic educational materials to support consistency in community messaging.
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6. International Engagement (*if applicable*)

- **Global Representation:** Participated in international Islamic forums and conferences, representing the Australian Muslim community and sharing the unique experiences and challenges faced in the Australian context.
 - **Strengthening Global Ties:** Continued engagement with international scholarly bodies and religious institutions to maintain theological alignment and cooperation on global Muslim issues.
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These achievements reflect ANIC's continued commitment to religious leadership, community support, and national representation. They lay a strong foundation for further progress in the coming year.

3. Challenges and Lessons Learned

3. Challenges & Lessons Learned

Australian National Imams Council (ANIC)

Over the past 12 months, ANIC has navigated a range of challenges while continuing to serve the Australian Muslim community with dedication. These experiences have provided valuable insights to strengthen our organisation, improve our operations, and adapt to evolving needs.

Internal Challenges

- **Organisational Capacity Constraints**
As ANIC's national role continues to grow, limited staffing and operational resources have placed pressure on our ability to deliver services, respond to urgent issues, and manage national coordination effectively.
- **Financial Limitations**
Reliance on limited funding streams has impacted the expansion of key programs, including training, community outreach, and digital infrastructure upgrades.
- **Administrative Systems**
Gaps in digital systems and centralised communication tools created delays in internal coordination and member engagement across states.



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Lesson Learned:

There is a need for continued investment in staff, infrastructure, and streamlined systems to support ANIC's expanding national mandate and provide timely support to members.

External Challenges

- **Rising Islamophobia and Misrepresentation**
Increased incidents of Islamophobic rhetoric and discrimination, particularly in public discourse and media, have created challenges for Muslim communities and placed pressure on ANIC to respond swiftly and effectively.
- **Community Expectation Gaps**
With increasing diversity within the Muslim community, varying expectations and needs have highlighted the importance of culturally and generationally sensitive communication and leadership.
- **Stakeholder Engagement**
Engaging consistently with government and media stakeholders remains a challenge due to differing agendas, policy constraints, and inconsistent recognition of religious leadership bodies.

Lesson Learned:

Proactive, strategic engagement and improved communication with both internal and external audiences is essential to maintaining trust, credibility, and impact.

Responses and Mitigation Measures

- **Strengthened National Coordination**
Efforts were made to improve internal communication through more frequent national meetings, digital engagement, and consultations with Imams and state representatives.
- **Advocacy and Media Response**
ANIC developed a more responsive media strategy to address misinformation and provide clear Islamic perspectives on current issues, helping to counter public misconceptions.
- **Policy Engagement**
Increased participation in policy discussions and interfaith forums allowed ANIC to better represent Muslim concerns in national debates and contribute to inclusive policy-making.
- **Community Listening Forums**
Localised forums and open consultations were held to better understand and respond to community concerns, especially among youth, women, and culturally diverse groups.
- **Planning for Growth**
Steps were taken to begin restructuring operational support, explore funding diversification, and initiate digital upgrades to better meet organisational needs.



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These challenges have underscored the importance of building long-term institutional resilience, strengthening grassroots engagement, and investing in leadership capacity to ensure ANIC can continue to fulfil its responsibilities effectively in a changing social and political landscape.

4. Financial Summary

Income paid in FY 2024 – 2025 \$48,650 (in account and cash)

Income paid in account FY 2024 – 2025 \$13,650

Payments made in FY 2024 – 2025 \$36,030

5. Cases since FY 2024 (1 July 2024) – (30 June 2025)

Open cases – 78 cases

Closed cases – 74 cases

6. Looking Ahead – Goals for the Next 12 Months

Strategic Priorities

- **Strengthen National Unity**
Enhance unity and cooperation among Imams, ANIC members, and the wider Muslim community through coordinated leadership, shared religious guidance, and stronger national cohesion.
 - **Expand Advocacy Efforts**
Advance ANIC's representation of the Muslim community in national discourse by actively engaging with government, media, and civil society on key issues such as Islamophobia, religious freedom, and social inclusion.
 - **Improve Training and Personal Development**
Invest in the continuous professional development of Imams and community leaders through structured training in pastoral care, youth engagement, media relations, and mental health awareness.
-

Key Initiatives Planned

- **National Imam Development Program**
Launch a dedicated program to support the professional growth of current and



Annual General Members Report

emerging Imams across Australia, focusing on leadership, communication, and community engagement.

- **Annual National Imams Conference**

Organise the 2026 National Conference to discuss national priorities, strengthen collaboration, and unify religious leadership on key matters affecting Australian Muslims.

- **Community Outreach Projects**

Expand programs addressing youth development, family wellbeing, and women's involvement, including public forums, open mosques initiatives, and interfaith activities to promote social harmony.

- **Public Policy and Media Engagement**

Implement a national advocacy strategy to respond to policy developments and shape public narratives around Islam and Australian Muslims.

Capacity Building

- **Organisational Growth**

Increase staffing capacity by appointing dedicated roles in program coordination, media, policy, and administration to support ANIC's expanding work.

- **Digital Infrastructure Enhancement**

Develop a national digital hub for ANIC members, including access to resources, khutbah materials, and training tools to ensure consistency and efficiency.

- **Resource Development**

Produce updated educational and religious materials to support Imams in addressing contemporary issues in a unified and effective manner.

Engagement

- **Strengthen Member Participation**

Establish regular communication channels such as newsletters, webinars, and state visits to increase engagement, consultation, and feedback from members.

- **Nationwide Collaboration**

Deepen cooperation with state Islamic councils, Muslim organisations, schools, and youth groups to align efforts and promote shared objectives.

- **External Engagements**

Build stronger relationships with government bodies, NGOs, academic institutions, and interfaith partners to advocate for the interests of the Muslim community and contribute to national conversations

6. Recommendations & Call to Action



Recommendations & Call to Action

Australian National Imams Council (ANIC)

Recommendations for ANIC General Members

- 1. Strengthen National Unity**
Actively support and participate in national initiatives aimed at enhancing unity among Imams and the broader Muslim community. Promote collaboration over division in all community matters.
- 2. Engage in Professional Development**
Prioritise personal and professional growth by taking part in ANIC's upcoming training programs, workshops, and forums focused on leadership, media engagement, and community service.
- 3. Promote Consistent Religious Messaging**
Adopt and disseminate nationally coordinated khutbahs, statements, and guidance to present a unified religious voice, especially on key national or sensitive issues.
- 4. Lead Local Community Engagement**
Be proactive in leading local outreach initiatives, including youth programs, interfaith activities, and public awareness efforts that align with ANIC's national direction.
- 5. Support Advocacy Efforts**
Contribute to ANIC's public advocacy by sharing relevant community concerns, participating in media campaigns, and supporting policy positions that protect and represent Muslim interests in Australia.

Requests for Support, Participation, and Feedback

- **Active Participation in National Events**
We encourage all members to attend and contribute to the **Annual National Imams Conference**, regional forums, and ANIC's key events and campaigns throughout the year.
- **Feedback and Consultation**
Provide feedback on ANIC's programs, policies, and communications. Your insights are critical in shaping the council's direction and effectiveness. A national member feedback survey will be launched in the coming months.
- **Contribute to Resource Development**
Assist in the creation and review of khutbahs, educational materials, and community guidance documents to ensure they reflect diverse community needs.
- **Collaboration with Local Organisations**
Strengthen ANIC's grassroots reach by building bridges with local mosques, Islamic centres, youth groups, and schools, and by sharing success stories and initiatives that can be scaled nationally.
- **Stay Connected and Informed**
Make use of ANIC's upcoming digital platform and communication tools. Regular



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engagement ensures members are aligned with national priorities and well-informed of new opportunities

Together, through unity, professionalism, and purpose, we can strengthen our leadership and better serve the Muslim community across Australia.

7. Closing & Acknowledgements

7. Closing & Acknowledgements

Australian National Imams Council (ANIC)

As we look ahead to another year of service and progress, we take this opportunity to sincerely thank all **ANIC members, volunteers, staff, community leaders, and partner organisations** for their continued dedication and support.

Your unwavering commitment to upholding the values of Islam and serving the Muslim community across Australia has been instrumental in the Council's ability to grow, respond to challenges, and lead with unity and purpose.

We also extend our gratitude to the countless individuals and organisations—locally and nationally—who contribute their time, expertise, and resources to help ANIC achieve its mission. Your involvement strengthens our collective voice and deepens our impact.

Reaffirmation of Commitment

ANIC remains fully committed to:

- Representing the interests of Australian Muslims with integrity and responsibility,
- Promoting unity and collaboration among Imams and Islamic institutions across all states and territories,
- Providing religious leadership that is informed, compassionate, and responsive to the needs of the community, and
- Upholding the principles of Islam while actively contributing to the harmony and prosperity of Australian society.

Together, with the will of Allah (SWT), and the continued support of our members and partners, we will strive to build a stronger, more united, and more empowered Muslim community in Australia.



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Jazakum Allahu Khairan for your trust, dedication, and ongoing support.
We look forward to the year ahead with renewed vision, shared purpose, and collective strength



Annual General Members Report

ANIC AGM Meeting – 12 October 2025

Department Name: Council Of Imams Western Australia

Reporting Officer: Hanan Mzakzak

Name: Hanan Mzakzak

Position: Operations Manager

Presenter: Shaykh Salmaan Parkar - CIWA President

1. Introduction

The Council of Imams WA (CIWA) is dedicated to providing religious leadership, guidance, and services to the Muslim community in Western Australia. The department's mission is to support Muslim communities by developing educational, social, and outreach programs, while fostering positive relations with broader Australian society, civic institutions, and interfaith partners.

Our vision is to be an exemplary and unifying body of Imams and Islamic scholars that contributes to the spiritual, social, and cultural betterment of Muslims in WA, while promoting harmony, understanding, and unity across Australian society.

This year reflected CIWA's dual focus on community empowerment and organisational excellence. By leading conversations on unity, identity, and leadership while addressing pressing social challenges, CIWA continues to advance ANIC's mission of building a stronger, more resilient Muslim community in WA and beyond.

2. Key Achievements – Past 12 Months

Provide a concise yet detailed account of major accomplishments:

Community Engagement & Events

The visit of **Sh. Shadi Alsuleiman, President of ANIC**, was a highlight, during which several impactful programs were held including:

- **(21/06/2025)** - *VIP Leadership Brunch* fostering strategic dialogue with community leaders. 133% attendance.
- **(21/06/2025)** - *Imams Forum – Unity Today. Legacy Tomorrow* focusing on long-term unity and planning. 83% attendance.
- **(22/06/2025)** - *Sisters Leadership Session* on Muslim women in leadership. 90% attendance
- **(22/06/2025)** - *Public Sisters Event* reflecting on the legacy of female companions.



- **(20/06/2025-22/06/2025)** - Engagements with schools, universities, and the wider community, including khutbahs, public talks, and youth assemblies.
- **(20/06/2025-22/06/2025)** - Public discussions addressing Islamophobia, Muslim identity, and leadership development.
- **(25/05/2025)** - We also participated with a collaboration on national projects such as the Seen & Heard Project with the Race Commissioner. 100% attendance.

Media & Social Outreach

- Growth of CIWA's online platforms and launch of branded resources such as the *CIWA Media Wall and pull up banners*.
- Over the past five months, our social media platforms have experienced notable growth, with a 35% increase in Instagram followers and a 17% increase on Facebook. This upward trend reflects the growing engagement of our community and the effectiveness of our digital outreach strategies. The increased reach not only amplifies awareness of our initiatives but also strengthens our ability to connect with a wider audience, foster meaningful dialogue, and promote greater participation in our programs and events.
- Anti-racism and anti-Islamophobia training completed, reinforcing CIWA's advocacy and representation work.

Organisational Strengthening

- Implementation of a structured membership database and secure file management system. We have recently obtained 30/43 members current contact details, educational documents and headshots uploaded into their files.
- Development of key governance documents (Volunteer NDA, registers, membership assessment criteria).
- Induction of new members, new female members and volunteers, strengthening CIWA's operational capacity.
- Expanded coordination with ANIC for national alignment of policies and procedures.

3. Challenges & Lessons Learned

- **Internal:** Imams participation.
- **External:** Unclear process and navigational challenges around establishing SRE provider status.
- **Responses:** Internal communication systems set up, WhatsApp broadcast lists, group SMS list, group email list and more regular posting of updates on WhatsApp groups. Multiple pronged communication approach.

4. Financial Summary (Overview Only), if applicable.

Our expenditure for this year is as follows,

- **Media Wall \$ 851.40**
- **Sister Leadership Roundtable \$65.49**
- **Imams Forum \$650.63**



- Total of \$1,566.89

5. Looking Ahead – Goals for the Next 12 Months

Outline what the department aims to achieve in the coming year:

- **Strategic Priorities:** Introducing CIWA member roundtables to strengthen national unity among Imams, ANIC members and the Muslim community. Expand advocacy efforts throughout universities and the community. Several workshops/events tailored to the members and community.
- **Key Initiatives Planned:** CIWA members human resource capacity building, Domestic Violence workshop, Community Outreach event, Marriage celebrant workshops, CARD revamp, Youth Day retreat, Western Australia remote areas outreach.
- **Capacity Building:** Identify the unique expertise and interests of each member and initiate projects accordingly. Provide workshops, mentoring, and access to professional development opportunities.
- **Engagement:** Improving member participation and collaboration with Islamic organisations nationwide, and external engagements.

Looking Ahead

- Domestic Violence Workshop for Imams – A vital initiative addressing the issue of domestic violence within the community, beginning with guidance and training for our leaders.
- Community Information Night – An engagement event designed to raise awareness about ANIC and its ongoing initiatives.
- Islamophobia Workshops with Sr Mariam – Educational workshops aimed at equipping the community to understand and respond to Islamophobia.
- CIWA Members Roundtable – A platform to encourage collaboration, discussion, and input from our members.
- Marriage Celebrant Workshop – A structured assessment ensuring Imams possess the required skills and meet ANIC's criteria for conducting marriage ceremonies.
- CARD Revamp and Strengthened Positioning – Enhancing CARD's structure and visibility for greater impact.
- Youth Day Retreat - a full day program designed to bring young people together in a safe, engaging, and spiritually uplifting environment. Including things such as, workshops & talks, Interactive Activities, Spiritual Elements, Recreation & social time and mentorship Opportunities
- Western Australia remote areas outreach – Lead by Br Sameh
- Recruitment of WA Imams for Chaplaincy.

6. Recommendations & Call to Action

- Recommendations for ANIC general members to consider and act on.
- Requests for support, participation, or feedback from members.



7. Closing & Acknowledgements

- Thanking members, volunteers, and partners for their continued support.
- Reaffirmation of ANIC's commitment to serving Islam and the Muslim community in Australia.

Please attach a financial report or any other relevant documents, if applicable