

# Media Response



4 August 2025

**Please attribute the following response to Greater Dandenong City Council Executive Manager Strategic Growth and Advocacy, Marjan Hajjari:**

In May this year, Council committed to a thorough, careful process of listening and community consultation, with the aim of promoting social cohesion and community resilience. This is a necessary first step, before there is any consideration of a name for this precinct.

The engagement model will be delivered in two stages.

In the first stage, we will work with the Department of Home Affairs and the Victorian Multicultural Commission, to build a shared understanding of social cohesion, strengthen connections between community and government, and explore shared values and cultural identities.

In the second stage, which will be led by Greater Dandenong City Council, we will use the insights from stage one to develop a shortlist of names. These will be assessed against the Naming Rules for Places in Victoria and released for community feedback. Final endorsement will rest with Council.

We are currently working with key partners to finalise the project plan, including a timeline. The community will be informed of the next steps once details are confirmed.

We are proud of our vibrant and diverse community. We are confident we can navigate this process and that community cohesion will be stronger as a result.

ENDS

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## Media Enquiry

1 August 2025

**From Adeshola Ore, The Guardian**

Can I please check what date councillors will have a final vote on the naming of the Afghan Bazaar in Dandenong in response to the community consultation?