Centre for Digital Wellbeing

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The Advisory Council (**Council**) drives the direction of the Centre for Digital Wellbeing and overseas projects.

The objectives of the Centre for Digital Wellbeing are to facilitate research about the impacts of social media and new and emerging technologies on (i) individual health and wellbeing and (ii) society and social cohesion, with a particular focus on youth and gender.

The Centre for Digital Wellbeing aims to formulate policy responses and develop resources that assist users to better engage in healthy digital practices that support their wellbeing and social cohesion broadly.

In order to achieve its objectives, the Centre will draw upon international experience to inform policy development and to formulate policy responses in accordance with international best practice where applicable.

2. Terms of Reference

The Council will:

(a) oversee and provide guidance on research into the impact of social media usage and new and emerging technologies on mental health and wellbeing, safety and social cohesion with the aim of informing policy and decision-making processes;

(b) draw upon international experience to inform policy development and support the formulation of policy responses in accordance with international best practice]

(c) support the examination of international regulatory and policy responses and inform Australian policy makers of international best practice;

(d) identify areas of interest to the Centre for Digital Wellbeing that are currently not explored research and policy;

(e) build a policy discourse around social media and develop links with overseas organisations working on the impacts of society;

(f) promote awareness campaigns among parents and carers of the impact of social media on children and teenagers, particularly in relation to mental health and wellbeing; and

(g) encourage the development of digital experiences that enhance health and wellbeing and social cohesion.

3. Structure and membership

Membership of the Council is drawn from health, mental health, digital technology and social policy experts.

The Chair of the Council will be selected by Migration Council Australia (MCA) or will be the CEO of MCA.

In the event of a member resignation, vacancies will be filled through appointment by the Secretariat in consultation with the Chair.

4. Meetings

Council meetings will be convened on at least two occasions each calendar year, face-to-face or via videoconference or teleconference. The Chair may call additional meetings or alter meeting dates and frequency as necessary to address any matters arising.

Meeting related expenses, including travel and accommodation, as necessary, are covered by members' respective organisations or, on a needs basis, by the Secretariat following negotiation between the member and the Secretariat.

5. Support

The Secretariat of the Centre for Digital Wellbeing will provide support to the Council, including:

    (a) coordinating meeting logistics;

    (b) preparing agendas, briefing papers, information and working documents;

    (c) briefing and advising the Chair; and

    (d) supporting meetings, disseminating minutes and actions arising.

The Secretariat is responsible for:

    (a) project planning, initiation and completion;

    (b) development of media content and other communication, as required;

    (c) development and maintenance of the Centre for Digital Wellbeing website; and

    (d) financial management and administration.

Out-of-session communication from the Secretariat to the Council will be facilitated via email or as otherwise appropriate.

6. Review and approval of Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference may be amended, varied or modified in writing after consultation and agreement by the Council.