

Active and Healthy Ageing Advisory Board Meeting
5.00pm to 6:30pm Red Room
Meeting Minutes - Thursday 10 August 2017

Chair: Shadi Hanna
Minutes: Gillian Damonze

Community Representatives Attendance: Mary Castellini, Anne Learmonth, Nick Nicholaou, Geoff Richards, Amanda Scott and Robyn Vote

Councillor Representatives Attendance: Cr Gaetano Greco

Darebin Council Representatives Attendance: Gillian Damonze (Co ordinator of Community Participation and Development), Shadi Hanna (Manager, Aged & Disability Department), Katrina Knox (Director, Community Development), Robyn Mitchell, Coordinator Transition & Assessment; Sue McDonough, Aged Housing Worker, Nick Matteo, Community Planner & James Sanderson – Student Placement (Masters of Ageing)

Apologies: Lyn Austin, Marika Bozinova, Audrey Grace, Virginia Herts, Draga Kostandinova and Cr Lina Messina, Cr Susanne Newton, George Jiang, Jan Goss

Observer: Cindy Bux and Fred Psaropoulos

Item	Key Discussion Points	Action – Who/When
1. Welcome, present, apologies	We welcomed two prospective members Cindy and Fred Psaropoulos who joined the meeting as observers.	
2. Agenda overview		
3. Matters arising previous meeting	M40 Preston Reservoir to Merri Creek Water Main Renewal Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter written on behalf of Board to Minister for Water MP Lisa Neville. 	Letter to be distributed to the Board. (GD) Board members to identify key

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response from Minister Neville received this week acknowledging the letter and encouraging the Board to meet with Melbourne Water to discuss the effects of the project works on people with limited mobility. 	<p>questions in preparation for a meeting with Melbourne Water.</p> <p>Meeting to be organised with Melbourne Water (GD)</p>
<p>4. Aged Care Reforms Robyn Mitchell Coordinator, Aged & Disability</p>	<p>Robyn Mitchell provided context relating to the aged care reforms. Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council will be engaging with community to raise awareness of the aged care reforms. Council is also seeking community input into Council's role in the future aged care system. We will do this by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distributing information through Darebin Community News which will reach 60,000 people - Holding forums and information sessions - Distributing information and a survey through the Springtime Events Brochure as part of senior month. - Staff meeting with and engaging people from non-English speaking language groups with support from interpreters. - There will be a number of strategies for Council to talk to community about the reforms. • Materials distributed to the Board highlights some of the actions Council is considering in its planning to consult with community. • Council needs to consider the broader community of older citizens in addition to people who may be accessing aged care services through Council. • Copy of draft survey distributed to Board for comment/ feedback. <p>The survey was developed with input from areas with special</p>	

expertise e.g. community engagement and the Communications Department. Feedback provided by the Board will be considered when finalising the survey with the help of these areas.

Discussion

- Geoff noted he has been asked to talk about the aged care reforms – it is not clear what information is available in the community to inform community about the reforms.
- Robin V noted that Council would need to work quickly due to the short timelines. The NDIS has provided recent examples of insufficient planning to support good engagement with community. Katrina Knox acknowledged the timelines with the NDIS were not ideal and Council had little influence in this regard. With regard to the aged care reforms, there has been an extension until 30 June 2020. Council has set aside funding in last budget to help Council prepare and plan for the reforms, this includes community engagement with community.
- Shadi - Councils have been working on a regional project that includes both the North and West councils (13 in total), however the individual councils are also working on their own engagement plans.
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Specific feedback regarding the survey

- Include engaging focus groups that are well selected and not random as a means for council to seek feedback – add to action plan.
- Community Survey could include a question asking respondents to leave their name and contact details should they be interested in participating in a focus group.
- Council needs to be clear in its communications what it has

	<p>influence over and what it doesn't to manage community confusion or expectations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First question on the survey asking respondents to rate the level of importance from a list of items. The question as it is written doesn't gauge how or if community members are engaging with each item, whether there are barriers to participation and if there are other items that need to be considered. There needs to be an additional question linked to the list of items in Q2 such as "of these services, what are the barriers that stops you accessing them"• The survey is asking people what they want to do but not what they are doing now.• The survey could include options for respondents to tell Council how they are currently engaging with each item through a scale such as: "I don't use/ I don't want / occasionally use"• From a Councillor perspective, the survey doesn't enable sufficient feedback to inform Councillors whether Council should stay in/out of the business of aged care.• The age bands need to be reviewed and should be consistent with the accepted norm.• The survey questions are very general and don't demonstrate the intimate knowledge Council should have of its community.• Q8 – Carer question – there needs to be an explanation linked to the younger age banding so that there is acknowledgement that younger carers do provide support to older residents.	
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<p>5. Darebin Social and Affordable Housing Strategy Nick Matteo, Community Planner</p>	<p>The Social Housing Policy focuses on housing for disadvantaged residents on a pension.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State Government selling off public housing, negative gearing, inadequate Government subsidies and high demand continue to make public housing availability a problem for those most disadvantaged. • Subsidies elevate rents artificially resulting in more people living on the street. • Council's response to the issue has always been bricks and mortar, a commitment they have reaffirmed in the Council Plan. Council provides the land at no cost and the state provides the dollars however with the State selling off public housing land this is becoming more challenging. • The Darebin Social Housing Program has identified 2 car parks to be developed into public housing, and funding is being sought from the State Government located at Town Hall avenue, Preston and at Northcote Plaza. • Council has also identified a further 11 sites and is looking for partners to continue embedding this model. • People with a disability are disproportionately disadvantaged when it comes to Social Housing. • The Social Housing Policy is currently being updated. • There has been an increase in the number of people living rough in Darebin. There are 20 known sites and at least 100 people sleeping rough, as well as unknown numbers of people, particularly young people, who may be couch surfing. • There are 30 registered rooming / boarding houses in Darebin, as well as 150 unregistered and overcrowded boarding houses. There are also an increasing number of older women staying in boarding houses, and 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nick will attend the October meeting with the draft housing plan. 2. The AHAB to consider making a formal recommendation for council to explore a co-op model.
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	<p>unconscionable tenant practices, with no consideration given to resident mix.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The hope is for Council to open more land for social and affordable housing to help meet the demand. Council will also continue to support homelessness agencies.• The Strathallan site is being considered for redevelopment into social housing – however there is also a push to have the site remain open, and undeveloped.• There is a principle of tenure-blind, so that it cannot be identified which accommodations are public and which are private.• The focus is to have affordable housing close to shops, community facilities and transport.• Developers want to make housing higher density so there is a higher yield, which is in tension with liveable housing principles.• The Government no longer publishes waiting times for public housing. Council has requested cumulated, de-identified data from the Government but are meeting resistance.• State Planning scheme stipulates when there are over 30 apartments, 15% must be public housing.• The Social Housing Policy and Land Use Policy are to be integrated. <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integration of social housing in private development – this is called Inclusionary Zoning. Victoria is the only state that does not have this type of zoning. South Australia has had inclusionary zoning for 30 years. Inclusionary zoning needs to be mandated.• Existing houses vacated through compulsory purchase – this is determined by Treasury. Example of this happening	
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	<p>occurred with the East West link. Social housing organisations were able to use these existing houses however tenants were asked to move out.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council owned land and stock – Port Phillip is a good example of a council which has increased its stock as it contributes both land and funding to build social housing. • Single dwellings – there are many single tenant in dwellings with multiple rooms in Darebin. Is there opportunity to match people needing housing to people in larger dwellings? Are there opportunities to incentivise? <p><u>Outcome of discussion</u> Nick will attend the October meeting with the draft housing plan. AHAB to consider making a formal recommendation for council to explore a co-op model.</p> <p>Sue McDonough provided a brief overview of the Aged Housing program and its role in matching people over the age of 45 (Indigenous community) and 55 (other) to one of the 3 housing estates that have been sponsored by Council. Council has nomination rights to support Darebin residents in need of urgent housing to access these estates.</p>	
6.Sector Reform Update	No further updates	
7. Aged and Disability update	Community Participation and Development Unit See report attached. Time did not allow discussion of this in the meeting	
11. Other items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Screening of An Inconvenient Sequel – Truth to 	Information to be circulated

	Power 5 September 2017	(GD)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Active Ageing Conference 2017 – 2 tickets will be available should members of the Board wish to attend.	Details to be circulated (GD)

Next meeting: Red Room, 1st Floor 274 Gower Street, Preston

Thursday 12 October @ 5pm – 6.30pm.