

**Active and Healthy Ageing Advisory Board Meeting**  
**5.00pm to 6:30pm Council Chambers (1<sup>st</sup> Floor 350 High Street Preston)**  
**Meeting Minutes - Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

**Chair:** Cr Gaetano Greco

**Facilitator:** Gillian Damonze (Coordinator Community Participation and Development)

**Minutes:** Ronnie Spykers

**Community Representatives Attendance:**

Marika Bozinova, Anne Learmonth, Nick Nicholaou, Geoffrey Richards, Robin Vote, Audrey Grace

**Darebin Council Representatives Attendance:**

Cr. Gaetano Greco, Gillian Damonze (Coordinator Community Participation and Development), Mitchell Bowden (Marketing and Community Engagement Officer), Fionnuala Spillane (Community Development Officer), Ronnie Spykers (Community Resource Support Officer)

**Apologies:**

Lyn Austin, Draga Kostantinova (Community Representatives) Katrina Knox (Director Community Development), Shadi Hanna (Manager Aged & Disability), Nicola Johnson (Community Development Officer), David Connolly (Participation and Inclusion Officer)

**AGENDA**

Item	Key Discussion Points	Action – Who/When
<b>1. Welcome and agenda overview</b>	In Cr Greco's absence, Gillian welcomed Board Members and opened the meeting.	
<b>2. Presentation by Leisure and Public Realm – Participation and Inclusion Officer</b>	David Connolly was an apology and was unable to present to the Board. In his absence Gillian presented information about Lappset. Lappset, who designs the equipment, has approached Council to install equipment to encourage older people to exercise in conjunction with Victoria University wanting to fund another 3 year study of the uptake of the exercise equipment by older people. The Board were also provided with brochures obtained from Lappset which shows how the equipment looks. The	David Connolly to be forwarded discussion points from Board Members.  Approach Leisure and Public Realm and explore exercise programs to be brought to older

<p><b>Item 2 Continued</b></p>	<p>Board explored the potential sites in Darebin for equipment to be installed. Below is a synopsis:</p> <p>The Board discussed the proposal of installing the equipment at TW Blake Park, next to Northland Homemaker Centre.</p> <p>The Board raised the following concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where exactly in the Park would the equipment be located?</li> <li>• Would it be close to available parking and public transport?</li> <li>• TW Blake Park is quite isolated from the main areas of activity i.e. Northland Shopping Centre;</li> <li>• Too close to a busy main road; difficult to get to;</li> <li>• Older people may need support and assistance to use the equipment;</li> <li>• Images depicting older people using the equipment raised concerns about capacity to use equipment properly and safely, e.g. balancing beams, rope climbs and uneven/unstable foot bridges; and</li> <li>• TW Blake Park may not be a suitable site due to existing plans to redevelop the Park.</li> </ul> <p>Board Members also discussed the following as considerations and/or alternatives to TW Blake Park:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The installation of the equipment should be next to existing playgrounds for kids for opportunity to exercise while children they are looking after also play;</li> <li>• Having smaller installations of the equipment in more places;</li> <li>• Equipment needs to be versatile for use by more people;</li> <li>• Equipment installed at locations with known walking and exercise groups or with Council's Exercise in the Park Program;</li> <li>• Installation at TW Andrews Reserve or Bundoora Park;</li> <li>• Installation with co-location of activity centres like Leisure Centres and Senior Citizens Centres;</li> </ul>	<p>people.</p> <p>Exercise survey of older people about what they think of the equipment.</p>
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	<p>The installation of the equipment at other Council's e.g. Manningham do not have the equipment co-located, but use it as part of their Exercise in the Park Program.</p> <p>The Board also discussed the possibility of exercise specifically for older people to be part of Council's Exercise in the Park Program.</p> <p>In David's absence, Board Members were provided with copies of Get Active in Darebin, Winter 2016 Activities. David will be invited to the October meeting to enable Board members to provide input into the Summer Activities for 2016.</p>	
<p><b>3. Aged Care Reforms</b></p>	<p>Gillian provided the Board with an overview of a presentation made some weeks earlier to Councillors by Katrina Knox on: The Federal Age Care Reforms – The Way Forward on request by Cr Greco.</p> <p>Clarified points of the presentation include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victoria did not sign the agreement immediately due to having done Assessments differently and wanting to maintain aspects of the Victorian system considered beneficial in the current system. MAC (My Age Care) – Integrated, Basic Screening and Assessment.</li> <li>• Council provides entry level support at home e.g. Home Care and Personal Care;</li> <li>• Reforms came about in response to the Productivity Commission's findings that people needing supports found it overwhelming to access services and the delivery and access to services were not equitable</li> </ul> <p>During the presentation, Board Members raised the following concerns about the Reforms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was there an active Review Program of Services and Delivery?</li> <li>• Does the change in services mean that the level of services that clients receive from Council will change?</li> </ul>	<p>Age Care Reforms to be a Standing Agenda Item.</p> <p>Provide update on experience of New Age Care Systems e.g. MAC</p> <p>DDAC to be approached regarding Board attendance at their next meeting.</p> <p>DDAC Members to be invited to A&amp;HAB.</p> <p>Board Members to be invited to up-coming Leadership Forum.</p> <p>Send copies of PowerPoint presentation to Members.</p>

**Item 3 Continued.**

- Board members acknowledged that historically Council has supplemented funding for services above the funding received from the State Government. Board member questioned whether it will continue to do so under the Commonwealth Home Support Programme? Cr Greco and Chair advised the Board that a decision will be made by the Councillors about whether Council will continue to support older people beyond 2019. A thorough consultation, similar to the one completed to inform their decision about the NDIS will take place before this decision is made.

Some Board Members considered it worthwhile to be proactive and question the position of candidates in the up-coming Council elections regarding Age Care Services in Darebin.

Board members were encouraged to consider what they felt comfortable with in regards to engaging candidates in the upcoming council elections.

Direct Client feedback/assessment provided by CSWs (Community Support Workers) will continue to play a main part in the review of services for Clients e.g. decline in health, reduce mobility etc.

**NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme)**

Although there has not been much feedback from recipients, some members of DDAC (Darebin's Disability Advisory Committee) have raised some concerns relating to the NDIS – Examples include:

- NDIS recipients encouraged to request higher levels of support than they actually need.
- Accessing information about providers registered under the NDIS has been difficult and arduous for NDIS recipients. Information is vital for planning and to access funds. The NDIA have received this feedback and are in the process of addressing this issue.

	<p>Synergies exist between DDAC and the AHAB and Board Members considered it worthwhile that Members of DDAC and AHAB attend the other's meeting and have joint conversations about issues that concern both advisory groups.</p> <p>Council's up-coming Leadership Forum will be hosted by the Age and Disability Department who will be hosting an internal Forum on the NDIS. Board Members are invited to facilitate table discussions if relevant at various points of presentations. Members of AHAB were invited to attend this forum as observers and/ or participants in discussion.</p>	
<p><b>4. Seniors Month in Darebin</b></p>	<p>The CP&amp;D (Community Participation and Development) Team will not be directly hosting a marquee event during the 2016 Darebin Seniors' Month e.g. The Reservoir Village Event, it will however work a couple of smaller projects like the Friends and Neighbours Morning Tea at Northcote and East Reservoir Senior Citizens Centres. Northcote will include a Tap Dance Show.</p> <p>The annual Springtime Community Events Brochure will be available in approximately two weeks.</p> <p><b>Events for 2016 Darebin Seniors' Month include:</b></p> <p><b>The Reservoir Village Seniors Day</b></p> <p>Hosted by Reservoir Traders Association. Capacity building of Traders to be inclusive and welcoming of older people. Very minimal participation from the CP&amp;D. The role of CP&amp;D in the event will be limited to the capacity building and support of traders through by the community development staff and some assistance on the day.</p> <p>Board Members are invited to participate in the Friends and Neighbours Morning Tea and the Reservoir Village Event.</p>	<p>Send copies of Springtime Community Event Brochure to Board Members.</p> <p>Collect expressions of interest from Board Members wishing to participate in the Morning Tea or the Reservoir Village Event.</p>

<b>5. Terms of Reference</b>	Board Members were provided with a copy of the Active and Healthy Ageing Advisory Board Terms of Reference for discussion at the October meeting.	Terms of Reference to be an Agenda Item for October's Meeting.
<b>6. Other Items</b>	<p>Information gap regarding Home Maintenance Service i.e. Window Cleaning and Gutters. Clients are still being informed that these services are no longer available, since they have been reinstated.</p> <p>Service recipients have provided feedback to Board Members concerned about the constant changes in who is providing their care. Clients have indicated to Board Members that this is difficult for them as they are more comfortable with a familiar carer.</p>	Close information gap on services.
<b>7.Meeting Closed</b>	<p><b>Next Meeting:</b> Thursday 13 October 2016  5:00PM – 6:30PM  Conference Room – (1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 350 High Street Preston)</p>	