

Active and Healthy Ageing Community Advisory Board Meeting

MINUTES – Thursday 18 February 2016

Chair: Cr Julie Williams

Facilitator: Gillian Damonze/Bridget Monro-Hobbs

Minutes: Mitchell Bowden

Community Representatives Attendance: Anne Learmonth, Nick Nicholaou, Audrey Grace, Geoffrey Richards, Virginia Herts, Mary Castellani, Robin Vote

Darebin Council Representatives Attendance: Katrina Knox (Director Community Development) Bridget Monro-Hobbs (Manager Aged and Disability), Gillian Damonze (Coordinator Community Participation and Development), Nicola Johnson (Community Development Officer), Mitchell Bowden (Marketing and Community Engagement Officer)

Apologies: Cr Gaetano Greco, Draga Kostandinova, Frances Hennessy, Lyn Austin, Marika Bozinova, Fionnuala Spillane (Community Development Officer), Ronnie Spykens (Community Resource Support Officer)

AGENDA

Item	Key Discussion Points	Action – Who/When
1. Welcome and agenda overview	Cr Williams welcomed Board members. Agenda items reviewed and relevant items added.	
2. Minutes of previous meeting	Engagement with SCOPE regarding Communication Access Gillian advised that Disability Access Planner role had been appointed and would be continuing some of this work around communication access.	
3. Review of AHAB work plan activities and set 2016 priorities	Gillian provided overview of 2015 activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Presentations given by other Council Departments (Creative Culture and Leisure & Public Realm)– Reflection on how other Councils (Knox and Boroondara) consider	

	<p>older people in planning and budgeting processes Board reflected that this has not been effective in A) giving the Board an idea of how well Darebin Council plans for older people; or B) helping the Board to advise on strategies for improvement.</p> <p>Gillian advised that the Action Plan for the Active and Healthy Ageing Strategy 2011 – 2021 is being reviewed and updated. When completed, this will help the Aged and Disability Department work with other Council Departments re: considering the needs of older people in their planning. Departments can then be invited back to present to the Board on how they are progressing actions. Board expressed that they would like to be part of reviewing and updating the Action Plan.</p> <p>In order to continue working on the 2016 work plan, it was agreed that a separate ‘working group’ meeting of those who are able to attend is required.</p>	<p>Gillian Presentation of draft Action Plan at next Board meeting.</p> <p>Gillian convene ‘working group’ meeting for review of work plan.</p>
<p>3. Property Maintenance</p>	<p>Katrina advised that Council has asked for feedback from the Board regarding the recent changes to Aged and Disability Department’s Property Maintenance Service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Property Maintenance is Council’s most expensive service. It is subsidised (beyond what the HACCC program provides), more than any other service. For example, Spring cleaning: at \$200.00 per hour, it costs \$800.00 to do a 4 hour window clean. – Council have refined the scope of the service to focus only on tasks that are necessary for client health and safety. The primary change has been the removal of spring cleaning and gutter clearing services. Council are also no longer able to do large construction works (eg building ramps). <p>Board advised that there are a number of tasks that have been removed that they consider “health and safety” related eg. gutter clearing. However, they understand the rationale for the refined scope.</p>	

<p>4. NDIS/Aged Care Reforms</p>	<p>Bridget provided an update on NDIS related activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A number of agencies have been funded by the NDIA to run information sessions and workshops. These include: Association for Children with a Disability (ACD), National Disability Services (NDS), VALID, AMAZE and Carers Victoria. Council is working with these organisations to host their information sessions and workshops in Darebin – A company called OurSay has been engaged to support a face-to-face and online consultation regarding what Council’s role should be under the NDIS. Community members are invited to attend either or both the community forums, and to post their thoughts online: oursay.org/darebin/ndis. The first forum was held on Thursday 11 February, and the second will be on Tuesday 22 March. – Bridget provided an overview of the process and expected timelines for Council’s decision regarding service provider under the NDIS. Council will make the final decision in March. <p>Board discussed the options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council to stay in direct service delivery. 2. Council to cease direct service delivery (except for people who are under 65 and ineligible for the NDIS). Council to provide advocacy and support people with the planning process. <p>Board voted unanimously (7 votes) for Option 2. The Board advise that they expect Council to support existing clients until they are fully transitioned into the NDIS.</p>	
<p>5. Community Development Updates</p>	<p>Nicola provided a Community Development update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Currently working with Leisure Services to review the fees/charges associated with the hire of some recreation facilities. The current fees make these facilities inaccessible to many older people. – Currently working on reviewing and updating the Action Plan for the Active and Healthy Ageing Strategy 2011 – 2021 (as discussed above). This will involve re-writing a number of the actions and setting priorities for the coming year. 	<p>Gillian Presentation of draft Action Plan at next Board meeting.</p>
<p>6. Other agenda items</p>	<p>Palm Sunday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Anne provided promotional flyer for the “Walk for Justice for Refugees.” Sunday 20 March, 2.00pm at the State Library (Cnr 	

	<p>Swanston & La Trobe Streets, Melbourne). Board members were encouraged to attend and promote within their networks.</p> <p>Batman Grandmothers Against the Detention of Children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anne enquired whether Council could assist the “Batman Grandmothers” to engage with some of the ethnic senior citizens groups in Darebin. Nicola offered to support Anne. 	<p>Mitchell distribute promotional flyers to Intercultural Centre</p> <p>Anne contact Nicola re: connecting with ethnic senior citizens.</p>
<p>7. Next meeting</p>	<p>Next meeting: 5.00 – 6.30pm, Thursday 14 April Conference Room – 274 Gower Street, Preston. 3072</p>	