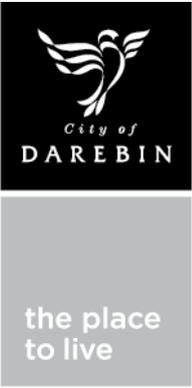


Darebin Disability Advisory Committee

Monday 5 August 2019
Meeting Minutes



Present

Councillor and Chair:

Cr Susanne Newton, Cr Julie Williams

Community Representatives:

Helen Caligiuri, Edward Manual, Vince Pirrottina

Carers:

George Jiang

Council staff:

Shadi Hanna, Manager Aged and Disability

Katherine Kiley, Senior Team Leader access and Inclusion

Zoe Howard, MetroAccess Officer

Ania Sieracka, Community Development Officer Access and Inclusion (minutes)

Jade Myconos, Community Development Officer Economic Participation

Guest speaker:

Allan Middlemast, Coordinator Transport Engineering

1 Present and Apologies

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the following apologies:

Apologies:

Ray Jordan and Matthew Zammit (community representatives), Judith McLean and Jo Banks (carers), Gail Abbott, Kathy Kondekas (service providers), Gillian Damonze, Coordinator Community Participation and Development.

2 Matters arising from the previous minutes

Update on Actions Pending:

- Council withdrew the Parking Strategy from consultation and the Your Say page has been deactivated.
- No additional feedback was received regarding accessible housing from DDAC.
- Staff and community members are invited to attend *Defiant Lives* screening on 26 August 2019.

3 Round table check-in *(This is an opportunity for members to add items to the agenda, prioritise agenda items, report back on events, updates or issues that may have come up since the last meeting and table any other issues).*

No items were added to general business.

4 Accessible Parking Bays in Darebin

Allan Middlemast, Coordinator Transport Engineering, Darebin City Council

Allan provided context for accessible parking in residential areas at Darebin:

In 2009, Council resolved that:

- Any new accessible parking bays in City of Darebin were to comply with relevant standards.
- Over the next three years accessible parking bays in activity centres and education facilities were to be upgraded through a Capital Works Program.
- New accessible parking bays in front of residential properties were to be discouraged, with the exception of group housing arrangements specifically for elderly and people with a disability.

The recent Darebin Parking Strategy consultation highlighted a lack of awareness of the disability parking permit scheme, and that it may entitle holders to an extension of parking time.

DDAC provided the following points for consideration:

- Accessible parking bays in Darebin should be fully compliant with relevant standards.
- Adjustments to the level of compliance could be made on an individual basis to respond to potential restrictions, such as a lack of space.
- Learnings from other Councils should be considered. For example, Moreland City Council installs signs and line markings in residential areas to provide additional accessible parking bays.
- Where access to the permanent bays is restricted, Council should consider setting up temporary accessible parking bays.
- Considerations regarding the location of accessible parking bays should include the use of ventilators and temperature sensitivity.
- An application process for accessible parking in a residential area should be developed.
- Some DDAC members are interested in being involved in the development of this application process and providing feedback.

Allan informed DDAC that Council will be briefed on the outcomes of the community consultation regarding the disabled parking scheme at end of August 2019.

ACTIONS:

Allan to provide the draft application process to Katie for sharing with DDAC.

5 International Day of People with Disability

Zoe Howard, MetroAccess Officer, Darebin City Council

Zoe provided the following information:

- The International Day of People with Disability (IDPWD) is celebrated on Tuesday 3 December 2019 (Note: DDAC meeting on 2 December 2019).
- Event ideas include: develop a guide of community events in Darebin for IDPWD and Human Rights Day, public participatory art events, hands-on sport and games, sensory story time, photo exhibition and projections on Northcote Town Hall .
- These celebrations could be combined with the Human Rights Day celebrations, held on Tuesday 10 December 2019.

DDAC provided the following ideas:

- Consider commissioning a disability mural, similar to the *Disability Pride* by Larissa MacFarlane installed in Footscray. This was a whole-of-community event with people participating and contributing to the mural on the day it was installed.
- Incorporate extra criteria into already existing mainstream activities rather than developing separate activities for community members with disabilities.
- Focus on abilities and promote creative activities, such as chess and backgammon competitions, and encourage submissions of creative writing to n-scribe magazine.
- Ensure activities support relationship building with the existing clubs and organisations. For example, the Chess Competition could be supported by an existing club and, after the competition, the participants could become long-term members of the club.
- Events and activities in 2019 could contribute to the celebration of the 25 years of DDAC.

ACTIONS:

DDAC members to provide any further ideas for celebrating the International Day of People with Disability to Zoe.

6 Economic Participation Role focus

Jade Myconos, Community Development Officer Access and Inclusion, Darebin City Council

Jade provided the following information:

- The Community Development Economic Participation role is business facing, and will work with internal units and external stakeholders including businesses, Disability Employment Services (DES), training organisations, social enterprises and community members.
- The focus of the role is to enhance the economic participation of community members with a disability.

DDAC provided the following points for consideration:

- The role could focus on the re-training of community members with a disability to gain new skills to enter the workforce.

- Develop a resource that would support community members' understanding of available jobs and assistance required to undertake them.
- Consider all aspects of economic participation and not just employment.
- Promote good practice. Many employers may not know what is available.
- DDAC members reinforced the importance of integrating employment and economic participation activities into the mainstream, rather than creating separate processes.

ACTIONS:

DDAC members to provide further ideas about potential activities for the role to Jade.

7 Darebin Disability Access and Inclusion Plan

Katie Kiley, Senior Team Leader Access and Inclusion

Ania Sieracka, Community Development Officer Access and Inclusion

Katie and Ania outlined the progress on the development of the new Disability Action Plan:

- Recruitment for the Working Group has commenced. The Expression of Interest form has been distributed to many stakeholders.
- The application process is closing on 9 August 2019.
- The Access and Inclusion Team has received a number of applications.
- DDAC members are invited to consider the Expression of Interest and circulate it through their networks.
- The Working Group will meet between the end of August 2019 and February 2020.
- Tentative meetings are scheduled for Saturdays, but the final decision about the day and time of the meetings will be left to the Working Group members.
- All meetings will be documented by a graphic facilitator.
- The Group will be responsible for the development of a Vision for an accessible and inclusive Darebin and the Community Engagement Strategy.
- Staff will have the opportunity to attend workshops that will assist them to develop actions to achieve the vision created by community.

ACTIONS:

Ania to provide the electronic version of the Expression of Interest for the Working Group to DDAC.

8 General Business

Changing Places update

Katie Kiley, Senior Team Leader Access and Inclusion

Ania Sieracka, Community Development Officer Access and Inclusion

The following feedback from the Changing Places launch event was shared at the meeting:

- Cr Newton congratulated the team on a well-run event.
- The launch was attended by community members and staff from Darebin City Council and other organisations, including Street-ability.
- The Mayor's Speech on the day and the sign on the facility both acknowledge DDAC and their role in the development of the Changing Places facility.
- A graphic facilitator recorded input from the community on the day and produced the Changing Places poster.
- Darebin City Council has committed to building four Changing Places facilities in the municipality, and progress will be communicated to community.

The Information Linkages and Capacity (ILC) Program update:

Katie informed the committee about the recent updates regarding the next grant rounds, including:

- The Individual Capacity Building Program is now opened to Disabled Peoples Organisations and Families Organisations.
- The information about the Mainstream Capacity Building Program and the Economic and Community Participation Program will be released in September 2019.
- The next Mainstream Capacity Building Program will focus on health and target health care providers, such as hospitals.

Mobility Maps Update

Vince raised an issue regarding the Darebin Access and Mobility Maps:

- The maps were previously available in a printed format and on the website, however due to out-of-date information identified by a community member, they have been removed.
- It is difficult to ensure information included in the Access and Mobility Maps remains up-to-date.
- Katie has invited Ben Crockett, Solution Developer Geographic Information System (GIS), to present information about GIS maps at the October DDAC meeting.

ACTIONS:

DDAC members to provide feedback to Katie about what information should be included in mobility maps and how this information could be kept up-to-date.

MetroAccess update

Zoe Howard, Metro Access Officer

Zoe provided the following information to the committee:

- The NDIS Housing Workshops delivered by Summer Foundation were well attended by community members and the allied health staff.
- Evaluations from these sessions were very positive and other Councils contacted Zoe for input to organise similar sessions.

- Zoe is working with Creative Culture and Events Team to develop Access Keys for Darebin Arts Precinct facilities.
- Council is continuing its engagement with CoHealth and peer educators to co-design a new version of the Sexual Lives Respectful Relationships Program.
- *Let's Talk About Sex Forum* (currently targeting community members aged 18 to 26 years) is scheduled for 24 October 2019 and organised with CoHealth, Melbourne Polytechnic and Northern Centre Against Sexual Assault.
- Zoe is exploring possible methods for a remote attendance at committee meetings.

ACTIONS:

Zoe to confirm whether the *Let's Talk About Sex Forum* could be open to people over 26 years of age.

Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability

The Disability Royal Commission wants to hear from all Australians about their experiences of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with disabilities, and are now accepting submissions.

To find out more, or make a submission, you can visit the Royal Commission website [here](#). You can access submission forms on this site.

If you find it difficult to use the form, you can provide your submission by phone on 1800 517 199 (9:00am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday AEDT) or email DRCenquiries@royalcommission.gov.au

The Australian Government is funding a legal advisory service and advocacy support for people who want assistance to make a submission. This support will be available shortly. If you would like to access this support, please subscribe to the [Mailing list](#) to receive updates.

Community Attitudes Toward People with Disability Survey results

Ania Sieracka, Community Development Officer Access and Inclusion

Ania shared the following information with the committee:

- The results of the Survey of Community Attitudes toward People with Disability were presented at a session organised by the Office for Disability.
- The survey, undertaken by Melbourne University, is first of its kind in Victoria.
- It examined personally-held and perceived societal attitudes about people with disability, including beliefs, feelings and behaviours.

The survey found:

- Participants were aware of the harmful and stigmatising ways society views people with disability.
- A minority of participants had particularly exclusionary attitudes.
- Many participants opted for neutral responses (degree of uncertainty).
- People without disabilities are unsure how to act and uncomfortable asking people with disabilities about support needs.
- Most respondents did not see people with a disability as a burden on society.

- Most respondents supported the rights of people with disabilities to have sex.
- Schools and workplaces were seen as accepting of people with disability by respectively 60 and 45 percent of participants.

Accessible Toilets at the Northcote Plaza Shopping Centre

Helen raised an issue regarding the lock and timer on the door of the accessible toilet at the Northcote Plaza Shopping Centre. Helen has recently attended the centre and it appeared the lock was not functioning properly.

ACTIONS:

Katie to contact the Northcote Plaza Shopping Centre management to raise the issue.

9 Meeting feedback – everyone

The meeting was very productive and addressed a range of different topics and issues.

Next meeting: Monday 7 October 2019

11:00am – 1:00pm

Function Room, Preston