

Monday 7 October 2019
Meeting Minutes

Present

Councillor and Chair:

Cr Susanne Newton, Cr Julie Williams

Community Representatives:

Helen Caligiuri, Edward Manual

Carers:

George Jiang

Service provider:

Kathy Kondekas

Council staff:

Shadi Hanna, Manager Aged and Disability

Gillian Damonze, Coordinator Community Participation and Development

Katherine Kiley, Senior Team Leader Access and Inclusion

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

Jade Myconos, Community Development Officer Economic Participation

Steph Murdica, Metro Access Officer

Guest speaker:

Zoe Howard, Aged Friendly Darebin Project Lead

Megan Martorana, Navigation and Support Officer

Ben Crockett, Solution Developer GIS

Caz Smith, Coordinator Collections and Community Programs

1 Present and Apologies

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

Ray Jordan, Vince Pirrottina and Matthew Zammit (community representatives), Judith McLean and Jo Banks (carers) and Gail Abbott (service provider).

2 Matters arising from the previous minutes

Update on Actions Pending:

- Allan Middlemast, Coordinator of Transport Engineering, Darebin City Council to provide the draft application process for accessible parking bays to Katie for sharing with DDAC – Katie is waiting for this information.
- DDAC members to provide any further ideas for celebrating the International Day of People with Disability to Zoe – no ideas were received to date.
- DDAC members to provide further ideas about potential activities for the role to Jade – no input was provided.

- Ania to provide the electronic version of the Expression of Interest for the Working Group to DDAC – Eoi was distributed on 10 August 2019.
- 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 – no input received to date.
- Zoe to confirm whether the *Let's Talk About Sex Forum* could be open to people over 26 years of age – Ania confirmed with CoHealth, there is no age restriction.
- Katie to contact the Northcote Plaza Shopping Centre management to raise the issue – Katie contacted the Centre to discuss improvements.

There are no further outstanding actions from the August meeting.

Edward reported that he used the Northcote Plaza Accessible toilet recently and it appeared that when a person using the toilet locked the door, the door locked permanently.

ACTION:

Katie to follow with the Northcote Plaza Shopping Centre management again to follow up on this issue.

- 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*).

Following items added to General Business:

Katie Kiley introduced Steph Murdica to the committee. Steph is stepping into the role of the Metro Access Officer until December 2019.

Gillian Damonze informed DDAC that October is the Senior Month and Community Safety Month. The celebrations have commenced with the publication of the new Darebin Springtime Community Events 2019 booklet.

4 Metro Access Farewell and update on the Aged Friendly Darebin Program

- Zoe Howard informed the committee that she moved from the Metro Access role to a new role of the Age Friendly Darebin Project Lead.
- The Age Friendly Darebin Program was launched on 3 October 2019 at Preston Market.
- The program is implementing two new pilot projects – the Aged Care Navigation Service and the Volunteer Inclusion Service.
- These projects were identified by the Aged Friendly Darebin review and will address difficulties experienced by residents who engage with the navigation of the aged care system, experience social isolation and loneliness.
- Megan Martorana, the Navigation and Support Officer, provided a contextual background to the changes to the aged care services.

- The aged care navigation system set up by the Commonwealth was underutilised by community in Darebin.
- Darebin is one of the first local governments to launch a System Navigation Program.

DDAC:

- Thanked Zoe for her work in the Metro Access Officer role over the last 18 months and wished her all the best with the new role.
- Commented on the name of the program, which reflects positive approach to working on identifying solutions in this area.
- Suggested the staff from the Aged Friendly Darebin Program provide an update on the program implementation in the future.

5 Geographic Information System (GIS) Mapping

Ben Crockett, Solution developer GIS, Darebin City Council

Ben provided the committee with the following update on the development of GIS maps in Darebin:

- The Accessible Service GIS maps provide an alternative source of information about accessible features in Darebin.
- In the past, the Access Mobility Maps provided this information.
- The Access Mobility Maps were available in hard copies, which created issues with keeping the information current.
- The GIS maps are interactive and include a range of information, such as the location of accessible toilets, Autism-friendly services, TGSIs, transport links, wheelchair accessibility.
- The maps are linked to the Council's internal systems and can be updated in real time.
- Community members can access the maps on their computers and mobile devices via an electronic link.
- Hard copies of the maps can be printed off the GIS system.

DDAC provided the following points for consideration:

- Diversify the range of colours and include names of those public buildings that feature on the map.
- Include the location of taxi ranks and public transport Super Stops.
- Included a community feedback section that will enable to keep the maps updated.
- Choose a name for the service that reflects a positive approach – some names put forward included Moving Around Darebin, Getting Around, Getting Around Darebin.

ACTION:

DDAC to provide further ideas for the name of the service.

DDAC to provide further ideas about what other information could be collected from businesses in Darebin and included on the maps.

Katie to provide a link to the Accessible Service maps to the committee.

The Access and Inclusion Team to promote this service by including the link to the maps in the Disability Access newsletter and on the People with Disability website page.

Ben to provide Katie with a printout of the Preston Central precinct to be shared at the December committee meeting.

DDAC to notify the Access and Inclusion Team about any further features and services that should be included on the maps.

6 Darebin Library Services

Caz Smith, Coordinator Collections and Community Programs, Darebin City Council

Caz provided information about resources available in libraries across Darebin:

- There is a range of resources that can be accessed by community on-site and on-line using the library card.
- The resources are available in many languages and include books, music, magazines, films and access to local history and family ancestry sites.
- Library staff aid with downloading of these resources and deliver digital device training sessions to public.
- Community members can access electronic devices on site at Reservoir Library (can borrow laptops and i-pads) and reserve an accessible PC workspace with a large keyboard for a longer time.
- The libraries offer the Home Library Service, which delivers library resources to homes.
- The service is planning to expand its scope to capture short and long-time carers, younger people and online access.
- The Aged Friendly Darebin report recognised that libraries are becoming community hubs by changing and diversifying the nature of services that they provide, including those for older people.
- The libraries source information about grants that could support different projects.
- Caz would be interested in supporting the development of the DDAC disability history project, if the DDAC develops an idea for this project.

DDAC provided the following points for consideration:

- The promotion of the Home Library Service could be linked with the delivery of the Meals on Wheels and home care services.

- Information about this service could be included in the Darebin Community News and distributed to the Community Centres and other Darebin Committees.

ACTION:

Caz to check whether the music downloaded on Freegal can be kept by the patrons.
Caz to share the library presentation with DDAC.

7 General Business

The Information Linkages Capacity Building (ILC) Grants update:

- The Economic and Community Participation Grants are now open.
- Council is considering applying in partnership with three external organisations.
- These include the expansion of the StreetAbility project, the development of a business incubator project and the development of the Sexual Lives and Respectful Relationships project.
- StreetAbility is a partnership with Amaze and the Committee for Melbourne, and currently focuses on making the businesses and services in the Preston central precinct Autism-friendly.
- The proposed project will expand the number of Autism-friendly places across Darebin and will include Wyndham City Council and City of Ballarat.
- Kathy Kondekas informed the committee that Melbourne Polytechnic is developing a similar project focusing on the enhancement of the safety of the campus and making navigation easier.
- The development of business incubator project will be undertaken in partnership with Outlook who specialise in disability employment.
- This project will focus on the strengthening of individual's skills to set up, develop and grow business.
- The Sexual Lives and Respectful Relationships project will be developed in partnership with CoHealth and peer-educators.
- This project will focus on the development of an eight-week course, which will be designed and delivered in collaboration with peer educators.
- It is possible Council will also support the grant application for the Strut Your Stuff project based at the SPAN Community House.

The Darebin Access and Inclusion Working Group update:

- Six community members were recruited to the working group
- The working group will be meeting on Friday 11 October 2019.
- There are two more meetings planned for October – a bus tour on 18 October and the first working group meeting on 25 October.
- All meetings will be graphically recorded by a graphic facilitator.

Other updates:

- Katie passed on the update from Emma Pase, the Community Hubs Coordinator at Darebin.
- The lift at Darebin North East Community Hub in Bundoora is getting replaced by the largest-size cabin. This choice was informed by extensive consultations with stakeholders including DDAC.
- The work will take place from November to mid-March 2020. During this time there will be no lift access to the top floor at DENCH.
- The lift in the Darebin Council building at 350 High St will be fitted with a mirror.
- Council received quotes from contractors for the next Changing Places facility at Edwardes Lakes.
- The StreetAbility project is getting launched on Wednesday 10 October at Preston Library at 6.30 pm.
- Let's Talk About Sex Forum is held on 25 October 2019 at Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre from 12.00 to 4.00pm.
- This forum is focusing on sharing information with people with a lived experience of disability, their supporters and services that cater for people with a disability.
- George reported that older people find it difficult to cross St Georges Rd and Murray Rd as the lights change very quickly.

ACTION:

Katie to raise the issue noted by George with Transport.
 Katie to invite Transport to DDAC to discuss how prioritising of crossings and timing of signals occurs.

8 Meeting feedback – everyone

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

Next meeting: Monday 2 December 2019 11:00am – 1:00pm

Function Room, Preston