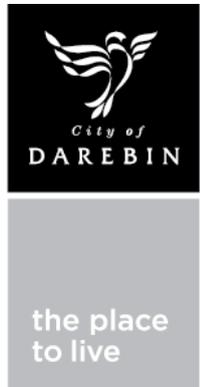


Darebin Disability Advisory Committee

Monday 1 April 2019
Meeting Minutes



Present

Councillor and Chair:

Cr Julie Williams

Community Representatives:

Helen Caligiuri, Ray Jordan, Edward Manual

Carers:

Jo Banks, George Jiang, Judith McLean

Service Providers:

Gail Abbott (Encompass House), Kathy Kondekas (Melbourne Polytechnic)

Council staff:

Gillian Damonze, Coordinator Community Participation and Development
Katherine Kiley, Acting Co-ordinator, Community Participation and Development
Zoe Howard, Metro Access Officer
Ania Sieracka, Community Development Officer Access and Inclusion (minutes)

Guest speaker:

Bridie Shea – Senior Local Area Coordinator NDIS, BSL (Brotherhood of St Laurence)
Wennie van Riet - Community Engagement Lead, Local Area Coordination NDIS, BSL

1 Present and Apologies

Chair welcomed all present to the meeting and noted the following apologies:

Apologies:

Vince Pirrottina, Matthew Zammit (community representatives), Shadi Hanna (Manager Aged and Disability)

2 Matters arising from the previous minutes

Actions pending:

- Katherine Kiley forwarded the contact details for Darebin Arts Centre (DAC) to the Future Focus Group. DAC will get in touch with Amaze regarding a site audit once the re-development of DAC is completed.
- Ray Jordan contacted the North West Program Alliance and is due for a meeting with staff from the Alliance to provide further feedback regarding level crossing removals.

- 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:

Katherine Kiley added an update on the Changing Places Construction

ACTIONS:

DDAC members to provide any feedback regarding Autism Friendly project to Katherine Kiley to share with Future Focus Group

4 Brotherhood of St Laurence (BSL)

Bridie Shea – Senior Manager, Local Area Coordination NDIS, Brotherhood of St Laurence (BSL)

Wennie van Riet - Community Engagement Lead, Local Area Coordination NDIS, BSL

Bridie and Wennie provided an overview of BSL and its role AS THE Local Area Coordinator of the NDIS. The following points were discussed:

- BSL is the Local Area Coordination (LAC) under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) across the North Eastern (Darebin, Yarra, Banyule and Nillumbik), Hume Moreland, Brimbank Melton, Western Melbourne and Bayside Peninsula areas.
- BSL adopts a human rights, individual capacity building, person-centred approach.
- LACs can support individual participants to access the NDIS (including support with Access Request forms, and pre-planning meetings). LACs undertake planning meetings with participants and develop participants NDIS plans. LACs also implement the Information Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) Program.
- If the plan does not include assistance from a support coordination agency, BSL can support the participant to implement their plan.
- At any given point in time a LAC is providing assistance to between 80 to 100 participants and during the plan review period reviewing up to three plans per week.
- At the moment, BSL is focused on working with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) organisations to enhance the understanding of the NDIS among CALD communities, and to link them with relevant services when they do not meet NDIS access requirements.
- BSL are always open to feedback regarding individual experiences to learn from and enhance service provision, BSL can be contacted on 1300 275 634

DDAC enquired about the following issues:

- How is transport funded through NDIS plans? BSL informed that anyone under 18 years old would not have transport included in their plan, as it is considered an everyday task that would otherwise be provided by the parents. For other participants, the inclusion of transport needs to be considered on an individual basis through the 'reasonable and necessary' lens, when their plans are being developed. If transport is not included then the plan has to be reviewed either by NDIA or BSL.
- Issues impacting on consent and decision-making capacity of participants with intellectual disabilities and neurological conditions. BSL informed the committee the planners attempt to engage the participant in decision-making but also bring everyone around the participant into the conversation when developing plans.
- Transition of information about individual participants from one LAC to another as staff change. BSL has experienced some staff changes due to the expansion of the organisation. Regularly participants should be informed about this transition by a phone call or an e-mail. If this does not happen, participants can always call BSL to check who their LAC is.
- What opportunities are there for participants to provide feedback? Participants are encouraged to provide feedback at the end of each planning session. BSL Data and Quality Team pulls feedback together and this information is passed on to the NDIA during fortnightly meetings.

DDAC provided the following feedback:

- Consider offering the participants an opportunity to review their plans prior to signing them. This could provide a way to double-check what was discussed and should be included in the plan. If the plan has been signed and implemented, and there are inconsistencies, the plan can be submitted to a 'light touch' review. These should not take longer than four weeks.

ACTIONS:

BSL to provide 1300 number to DDAC (see above: 1300 275 634)

DDAC to draft an NDIS issues letter and forward it to BSL

Consider scheduling LAC visit to a DDAC meeting in the future

5 Disability in Darebin Heritage Project idea

Zoe Howard, Metro Access Officer

Zoe provided an overview of the Darebin Heritage Project idea. The idea for the project first arose while discussing preparations for the celebration of the 2018 International Day of People with Disability, including the screening of *Defiant Lives*. DDAC commented on how powerful this film was and the success of its screening. Zoe informed the

committee she purchased a copy of the film and met with the History Team at Darebin Libraries to discuss opportunities and potential methodologies for the project.

DDAC were invited to assist in the mapping out of the parameters of the project (the aim, scope, stakeholders and outputs). The feedback from DDAC was that the project should celebrate the achievements of disability activists and raise awareness.

ACTIONS:

Zoe to organise a screening of *Defiant Lives* for DDAC on a Monday

Zoe to collate the feedback regarding project parameters received through the work sheets

6 General Business

Council Updates:

The first Changing Places facility in Darebin is being constructed in Kelvin Grove, Preston. Council received funding from the Victorian State Government to support the construction of this facility. Once the facility is completed it will be launched, possibly late June 2019.

Changing Places is an action in the current Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP). The launch of the Changing Place will also be an opportunity to commence engaging with community regarding the development of the new DAIP.

Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan updates

The budget for the development of the Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan has not yet been confirmed. The budget is due to be finalised in late June 2019.

Community Engagement updates

Ania informed the committee she will be re-engaging with community members and stakeholders active in the disability area. Ania is currently developing the Community Engagement Plan to guide her in this project. This plan will be forwarded to DDAC for feedback and input.

Kite Festival Sunday 24 March 2019

The Access and Inclusion Team attended the Darebin Kite Festival and engaged with the community regarding what makes them feel included. The responses were documented by a graphic recorder in a form of an Inclusion poster (the poster was displayed on the wall during the meeting). Similar graphic recording is planned for the new DAIP.

DDAC suggest the poster be laminated, framed, scanned, and made into a fabric banner. The graphic recorder will provide a digital copy of the poster to the Access and Inclusion team, which will enable possible future development of these formats.

The Access and Inclusion Team also ran a sensory-friendly area, which provided a quiet space at the festival.

DDAC parking and attendance

DDAC were reminded of the importance of attending and confirming attendance prior to meetings. Currently staff will secure parking spaces for members who confirm they are attending the meeting in the customer car park. This will be a short-term solution as other parking solutions are sought internally.

Accessible Housing paper

Council is completing a background paper to assess how accessible housing design guidelines can be implemented into the initial designs of a dwelling (rather than retrofitted after build). The background paper will cover the following considerations:

- Livable Housing Design Guidelines / Universal Design Guidelines
- How to implement the guidelines: mandatory/voluntary/performance based
- Size of development to trigger enforcement and feasibility
- Cost-benefit analysis including costs to developers, Council and savings to residents
- Difficulty to fully quantify/monetise the benefits of living in an appropriately designed dwelling, therefore, seeking to gather feedback of lived experiences to ensure these perspectives are included in the overall assessment.

Council is developing an engagement plan to ensure recommendations meet the needs of current and future residents, and is seeking feedback on:

- Experience looking for a dwelling to rent or buy that suits individual needs
- Experience living in an unsuitably designed dwelling
- Experience retrofitting existing dwelling to suit their individual needs
- Feedback on considerations of existing accessible housing guidelines

BIC/Metro Access update

The Access and Inclusion Team is still waiting for a confirmation from the Department regarding the extension of the BIC program.

ACTION:

DDAC to contact the Access and Inclusion team if they have any ideas for the launch of Changing Places

DDAC to provide any feedback in relation to the Accessible Housing Paper

Ania to provide the Community Engagement Plan to DDAC for feedback

7 Meeting feedback – everyone

The meeting was very productive. DDAC found information about BSL and NDIS processes useful.

Next meeting: Monday 3 June 2019

11:00am – 1:00pm

Function Room, Preston