

RECORD OF MEETING: ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY GROUP

Meeting of 28 June 2011, Council Chambers, 101 Wakefield Street, 5.30 to 7.30 pm

1. Present

- Members: Linda Hobman (Chair), Lisette Wesseling, Alan Royal, Rosemary Cole, Angela Vanderpoel, Jason Strawbridge
- Council Officers: Jennifer Rains, Ken Bowater, Jon Visser, Sophie Burt, Lucie Desrosier
- Councillors: Iona Pannett
- Guests:
- Interpreters: None
- Minutes: Lorraine Guthrie

2. Welcome from the Chair (2 min)

- Apologies: Thomas, Kendall, Iona for late arrival

3. Adoption of Minutes (2 min)

- Minutes of the 31 May 2011 meeting were adopted. (Jason/Alan)

4. Safety around road works (including other kinds of temporary access created by building renovations etc) – [Infrastructure Performance (Jon Visser)] (30 min Discussion)

Questions for the presenter

-What criteria or standard do you have for contractors creating temporary access around a work site?

-What does your team do to ensure that all temporary works are accessible? (ie contractor monitoring, sign-off of temporary access concepts)

-Do you have statistics on the number of temporary access complaints logged for projects e.g. Lower Cuba St.?

-What does the word Accessible mean to you?

-Why are obvious significant hazards left for weeks on end sometimes before rectification occurs? E.g. The large lip where the asphalt footpath of Wakefield St meets the new paving at the bottom of Cuba St.

Comment:

- Council have adopted the *national Code of practice for traffic management and working on the road* – (reasonable measures to ensure all people can access all sites, according to NZS 4121). Minimum site safety requirements. Focus is on safety, rather than accessibility
- Ramp widths, physical barriers around sites, clear visible signage
- Audit provision occurs – make recommendations for actions as needed
- Open to receiving feedback, phone, text or website
- Complaints go direct to Council if it is a Council-managed project. If it is a contract with third party, Council directs the complaint to them
- Concern expressed by AAG about the Cuba street project, particularly around safety

- Contractor creates the hazard, only when Council becomes aware of a problem can they step in and make improvements. Auditors observe regularly but they only step in once they see an issue.
- Auditors visit sites daily (large projects). Mobile inspections (generally from the car) are made each day for their whole area. Detailed site visits are made less than daily but also in response to issues raised.
- For Council projects – project managers are expected to run the audits
- Barriers v/s cones – regulations exist around safety, in particular the level of risk to pedestrians and workers.

Actions:

- Jon to provide statistics about Lower Cuba street complaints, and both pre-emptive and responsive actions taken.
- Jon made note of the Blind community's preference for barriers rather than cones or tape
- AAG to encourage the public to log issues with the contact centre and can also log issues they become aware of or if they are concerned at the timeliness of response
- Any AAG contact with Jon should go through Jason as Contact Person for the Transport etc. sub-group

5. Mirimar Upgrade Planning [Lucie Desrosiers or team member] (15 min)

Discussion

- What issues and opportunities have been identified for improvements to this area for people with impairments? (mobility, hearing, vision, mental health)
- What mitigations or improvements are currently being considered?
- How can AAG members assist? (particularly the Environment, Transport and Urban Development sub-group)

Comment:

- Includes all land east of airport
- Future of area, 10 years or longer
- 12/18 months until plan available for consultation
- Concepts not at the detailed stage, so accessibility issues not yet considered
- Jules raised concerns (via Jenny) about access to library, amenities around township, inability to park to current amenities, increased numbers of mobility parks and better placement
- It was felt that accessibility issues need to be a core element of design, not an add-on after. Even at the concept stage!
- All mobility car parks should comply with the design standard, and the number and locations should be consistent with the distribution planning undertaken by City Communities in 2011
- The design is expected to be developed enough by December to be costed for the next funding round

Action

- Sub group to become involved more closely with the project
- Group to include Kilbirnie upgrade on July 26 agenda

6. Wellington 2040 consultation [Iona] (15 min) and AAG submission coordination [Jason] (5 min)

Discussion:

- 30 year strategy, consultation already started
- Sites available and website consultation ability
- Climate change, aging population, recession etc issues addressed in the plan
- High level strategy with no actions at this stage
- Central city framework – is about urban design, special structure plan and short and long term priorities. Looks at how the city should work, public spaces etc
- Informed by public consultation and with councillors
- Stakeholder group presentations will be made available
- Draft to SPC on 16 June for public consultation. Final back to Council in September
- Strong recognition of meeting needs of an aging population
- Accessibility and disability not specifically identified in the draft document

Actions:

- Feedback via consultation on aspirations for accessibility in the 2040 plan
- Lisa to ensure AAG receive hard copies of the 2040 plan
- Jason to review the central city framework (within the plan) and draft a submission from the AAG. AAG members to provide their comment to Jason
- Jenny to ensure the website at Council has the necessary accessibility tools

7. AAG forward programme update [Ken] (10 min)

Discussion

- AAG long term, projects at operational level, AAG input, SPC – forward programme needs to indicate all areas
- Older Persons policy review has been moved to later in the year
- Arts sessions (city arts and arts and culture strategy) will occur in July meeting
- Kilbirnie upgrade for July meeting
- 2040 strategy will be in July meeting
- Restaurant association discussion could be moved

Action

- Agenda to be revised
- Sub group will follow up with the restaurant association
- Ken to circulate the older persons policy to AAG members

8. Report from the Chair (Alan/Linda) (10 min)

Discussion

- Confirmation of next meeting's agenda referred to above

Actions

- Alan will draft a submission on the digital strategy and circulate to members for comment

9. Officer's Report (Jenny) (10 min)

Discussion:

- Communications – proposed approach to initiate discussion
- Appointment progress update
- Lisa reported on a possible submission template

Action:

- Jenny will circulate an organisational structure of the new positions, with names and titles
- Support for the AAG will sit within the Consultation and Engagement Team. Leadership within Council to drive and monitor effectiveness of accessibility provisions is expected to remain within City Communities
- Recruitment of a new AAG member
 - Selection should prioritise people with lived experience in the area of hearing loss and / or the Deaf community and, with Lisette and Thomas leaving, visually impairment and blindness.
 - The collective membership should also continue to seek ways to be culturally inclusive, including for Māori
- Please send in feedback on the draft engagement process discussion document which will be circulated on Thursday

10. Questions to AAG follow-up actions (See Appendix 2) (5 min)

Discussion

- none

Action

- none

11. Questions to AAG Sub-group reports (See below) (5 min)

Discussion

- No reports were sent in

Action

-

12. Other business (5 min)

Discussion

- Farewell and thank you to both Jenny and Ken
- Thank you from Ken and Jenny

Sub-group reports

[Sub-group contact people are asked to email in an update on sub-group activity since the previous meeting, a week in advance for inclusion with the 'agenda'.]

NEW SUB-GROUPS AND MEMBERSHIP

Governance and Engagement [Including: participation, communication, annual forum, information technology] **Lisette, Alan, Linda**

- None

Environment, Transport and Urban Development [Including: parking, roads, bus lanes, public transport, natural environment, parks, waste, building, planning, parks and transport] **Jason, Thomas, Kendall, Angela**

- None

Economy and Cultural Wellbeing [Including: arts, access, employment, events, economy, museums, employment, (Rosemary – DAP, Kendall – Wellington 2040, Jason – Restaurant article, Lisette and Kendall - RWC)]

Rosemary, Lisette, Kendall, Linda, Jason

- None

Social Services and Recreation [Including: Jason – employment and recreation, Rosemary - emergency preparedness and access to services, Angela – housing and homelessness]

Angela, Rosemary, Jason

- None

Meeting closed at 7.40 pm

Next Meeting

26 July 2011

In Committee Room 1

APPENDIX 1

AAG FORWARD PROGRAMME [DRAFT] (the last Tuesday of each month)

26 July [Committee Room 1]

- City Arts (Martin Rogers) - Activities to increase accessibility and inclusion. (e.g. participation, companion cards, captioning, signing, etc)
- Arts and Culture Strategy review (Aroha) including hearing preliminary views on Public Art Policy review
- Kilbirnie Upgrade Planning (Sophie Burt - UD)

30 August [Committee Room 1]

- Communications (Trina Saffioti, Manager, External Communications) TBC

27 September [Committee Room 1]

- Planning for annual forum/workshops

25 October [Committee Room 1]

- Preparation for annual AAG report to SPC
- Planning for 2012

29 November [Committee Room 1]

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20 December [Committee Room 2]

- Annual forum/workshops

Draft Sub-group Forward Programme for discussion on 28 June

Overarching work streams:

- Wellington 2040 City Strategy
- Accessibility Action Plan

Governance and Engagement	Proposed Timing							
	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	2012
Review of Council's Engagement Framework (includes revised ToR for Advisory Groups) [TBC]								
Various submissions, yet to be scheduled								
<i>Performance indicators related to services for people with impairments</i>								
<i>Web-ready and Print-print documents for accessibility</i>								
<i>Presentation guidelines (for AAG)</i>								
<i>Older Person's Policy (input to scoping paper due to SPC in August)</i>								
<i>Council style guide for accessibility</i>								

Environment, Transport and Urban Development	Proposed Timing							
	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	2012
Environment Jason								
Review of Capital Spaces – Open Space Strategy for Wellington [scoping report]			11					
Transport Kendall, Thomas								
Bylaws – (technical traffic and parking issues) [submissions report 8 Sept]				22				
<i>Ngauranga to Airport</i> [GWRC]								
<i>Lambton Interchange</i>								
<i>Hutt Corridor</i>								
<i>Golden mile – Cuba St</i>								
Urban Development Angela								
Kilbirnie Town Centre Plan - implementation				22				
Wellington 2040 – Central City Framework [TBC]								
<i>Building Act interpretation and promotion of accessibility</i>								

Economy and Arts/Culture	Proposed Timing							
	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	2012
Economy								
Review of Events Strategy 2003 (including community events) [Scoping report]							8	
Wellington 2040 City Strategy [TBC]								
Cultural Wellbeing								
Arts and Culture Policy [TBC]				?				
Public Arts Policy					6			
<i>Accessible Arts Forum (request visit from Martin Rodgers, Manager, City Arts)</i>								
<i>Re-engagement with PWT</i>								

Social Services and Recreation	Proposed Timing							
	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	2012
Older Persons Policy [TBC]								
Recreation Strategy						10		
Accessibility Action Plan			18				?	

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

General

- Members to send Ken any focus questions for presenters 3 weeks prior to their presentation. Ken/Jenny to brief presenters.

FROM 31 May 2011

- Ken to send updated draft Action Plan report to AAG Done
- Ken to collate sub-group priorities Done
- Thomas to write thanking Errolyn on behalf of the AAG and Council Thomas
- Ken to create an informal AAG submission template to ease the writing process Ken
- Jason to coordinate W2040 submission Jason
- Sub-groups to consider 2040 submission content for discussion on 28 June
- Jenny to advertise vacant position on AAG Jenny

FROM EARLIER

- Arrange site visit to Kilbirnie Indoor Community Sports Centre Julian Todd
- Consider how to improve focus of future officer presentations (e.g. What are the issues around accessibility. What is being done to make the project accessible? What was learnt from past experience? What input is sought from AAG members?) Ken/Alan/Thomas – timing being considered by Jenny
- Read the Older Person Policy in preparation for later review <http://www.wellington.govt.nz/plans/policies/olderpersons/index.html> All