

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY GROUP

Tuesday 16 December 2014 in Te Mahanga Committee Room One, 101 Wakefield Street 5.30pm to 7.30pm

1. Present

2. Welcome from the Chair

3. Conflicts of interest

4. WCC communication guidelines (10 min)

New internal guidelines are being prepared, which will include a section on accessibility. Elizabeth St John-Ives will go through this with you.

Then I will go over the four chosen mobility parks – in response to the point below I will send these out today – the four prosed parks. Need 10 mins for this in meeting.

5. Accessibility Advisor report (5min)

Elizabeth St John-Ives will update you on what has been happening over the last month.

6. Central City Mobility Parks (10 min)

Elizabeth St John-Ives will update you on the four additional central city mobility parks that have been chosen.

7. Master Plan for Mt Victoria/Matairangi

The draft plan has been circulated to members. This is an opportunity to collect AAG feedback.

8. Accessible Voting Documents (10 minutes)

The next iteration of the voting papers we previously reviewed may be available for further review.

9. Matters arising/Adoption of minutes (5 mins)

- International Day of People with Disabilities Event
- Response to queries about accessibility advisor role (Simon)

10. Project reports (5 mins)

11. Other business (5 mins)

- Waterfront Technical Advisory Group (TAG) update (Simon). Jenny Rains will come to AAG on 27 January.

12. Next Meeting - Tuesday 27 January 2015 in Committee Room One

PTO

| Action points from 16 December | Person responsible | Status |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Send feedback on accessibility section of the WCC communication guide to the relevant staff. Members to send additional feedback to Simon for him to forward to relevant staff | Elizabeth Members / Simon | Done |
| Approach businesses in Johnsonville regarding mobility scooter parking | Christine O | |
| Copy mobility parking audit to Tristram | Elizabeth | |
| Arrange a meeting with responsible officer Forward comments to responsible officer | Simon Simon | Done Done |
| Forward comments and questions raised during review of voting documentation to the Electoral Officer | Simon | Done |
| Form a mobility parking working group | Michael | |
| AAG to review the policy forward programme when the WCC has reviewed it | Simon | |
| Find out date for oral submissions on the Island Bay Cycle Way and when the AAG will receive feedback on its submission. | Simon | |
| Email Cr Woolf regarding accessible access to The Stadium and the need for a consistent approach from security guards. | Lee | |
| Progress against the work programme and work planning will be scheduled for the first meeting of 2015. | Michael, Paula, Simon | |

| Action points from 25 November | Person responsible | Status |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Find out about the disestablishment of the accessibility advisor | Simon | Reportback on 16 Dec & 27 Jan |

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY GROUP

16 December 2014 in Committee Room One, Wakefield Street 5.30pm to 7.30pm

1. Present

Members: Shannon Krogmann, Michael Bealing, Paula Booth, Julia Mosen, Tim Pate, Lee Rutene, Christine O'Sullivan, Christine Richardson, Tristram Ingham

Apologies: Cr Lee

Officers: Simon Wright (Consultation & Engagement), Elizabeth St John-Ives (Accessibility Advisor)

2. Welcome from the Chair

Michael welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

3. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4. WCC communication guidelines

Members reviewed the accessibility sections of the WCC staff communications guidelines, which are being developed. The following points will be forward to relevant staff:

- Don't use text boxes in word documents as screen readers often can't read them
- On page 22 in the sentence "HTML and accessible pdf options can also be created....", the word 'should' should be used instead of 'can'
- On page 24 add "and deaf people" to the sentence "when creating videos, provide a transcript..."
- In the further resources, add a link to the New Zealand Standard 4121, which covers how to make signage accessible.

5. Accessibility Advisor report

Members read an update report written by the Accessibility Advisor, Elizabeth St John-Ives, and the following points and issues were raised. This will be Elizabeth's last report as her contract will end shortly.

- Work has continued with the mental health service provider, Pathways, and the WCC's community gardens coordinator and representatives from Parks, Sports and Recreation.
- Creative Services has been briefed on accessible fonts for WCC publications
- Advice from Autism NZ on making Wellington more liveable has been circulated to WCC departments
- WCC's Human Resource has been asked to continue the work with WCC managers and Workbridge on employing people with impairments
- The work on better accessibility maps is taking longer than expected.

A query was raised about progress on mobility scooter parking in Johnsonville. Although lots of business expressed support for the idea, no suitable spaces were identified and the WCC is now investigating providing parking in other suburbs (e.g. Miramar). A member asked if she should try to influence a Johnsonville business and was told that that would be fine. Another member suggested that the WCC approach the Newland's New World.

6. Central City Mobility Parks

Proposals for 4 new mobility parks in the central business district will be considered by the Transport and Urban Development Committee on 3 December. Two parks are proposed for Balance Street, one for the south side of Courtney Place at the Kent Terrace end, and one for the Te Papa end of Allen Street. If the Committee decides to proceed with the proposal, the proposal will be consulted on before a final decision is made.

Some members believe that more mobility parks are needed in the CBD, for example in Cuba, Garrett, Wigan and Marion Streets. It was noted that a better ramp is needed for the mobility park on Wigan Street.

There is a role for members of the accessibility community to talk with business about the benefits of having mobility parks in the CBD. This will ensure that businesses know that mobility parks are good for business.

Tristram asked Elizabeth to forward him a copy of the audit of mobility parking in the CBD.

7. Master Plan for Mt Victoria/Matairangi

Members developed further feedback for the WCC on a draft version of the Master Plan. The group decided to seek a meeting with the relevant WCC Manager to talk through the issues.

The feedback and questions are summarised as follows:

- The absence of any clear statement on the consideration of accessibility made it difficult to have any sense of how accessibility has been considered.
- It was unclear whether accessibility was specifically part of the terms of reference (TOR) for this project. The Accessible Wellington Action Plan 2012-2015 includes a section on “The Built Environment and Open Spaces” that states “At the moment, we build accessibility considerations into plans, project briefs and consultation documents”. How do the proposed Mt Victoria developments give effect to the Accessible Wellington Action Plan?
- It would be useful to review how accessibility was set out in the TOR as this may indicate whether there are systemic things the WCC could do better give effect to the Accessible Wellington Action Plan
- The Master Plan should include a succinct section that sets out how accessibility has been defined and considered. This should include a summary of actions taken to improve accessibility and mitigation for actions that decrease accessibility.
- Mt Victoria is covered by the Town Belt’s very particular governance arrangements, which may mean it is treated differently from other urban designs. The AAG believe that the accessibility standards described by New Zealand Standard 4121:2001 Design access and mobility - buildings and associated facilities should still be used where possible.
- What consideration has been given to braille signage or mobility parking?
- The mobility impaired community is disappointed that there is still no plan for a ramp or lift to the top of Mt Victoria, which is one of the premier places to look out over Wellington. The lookout should be accessible for the increasing number of locals with accessibility issues and for many cruise ship visitors for whom accessibility to tourist destinations is important. The WCC should reconsider the scope of the Master Plan and consider installing a ramp or lift
- Facilities at the summit need to be accessible for people travelling by bus. Buses (including kneeling buses) need to park beside curbed areas
- The provision of accessible parking at the SPCA from the Alexander Road side needs to be reviewed.

- The AAG would like to know the proposed dates for the public consultation.

8. Accessible Voting Documents

The latest version of new voting forms and participant profiles reviewed. Members had the following feedback and some questions.

Regarding the voting papers, it was agreed that the format used for the election of health board members was the best from a visual impairment point of view as the black on orange gives good contrast and the font is good too. There were no comments on the candidate profiles.

There following issues were raised regarding voting for blind people:

- The idea of Braille overlays has been raised before. Such overlays would fit over normal voting forms with the instructions and candidate names in Braille, and they enable blind people to use an ordinary form. Previously overlays have been rejected because the voting forms are not standardised. Is this still the case?
- Will audio versions of the candidate profiles be available so that blind people don't need to get a friend or family member or polling booth officer to read the candidate profiles?
- A telephone system of voting was trialled for the first time in NZ in the last general election. Julia said it worked really well. Will something similar be available for the next local body elections?

A question was asked about whether online videos in New Zealand Sign Language will be made available before the election on how to vote, etc.

It was also pointed out that many polling booth use tables that are the wrong height for wheelchair users and tables with adjustable heights would be better.

AAG members were reminded that a postal voting system is used for local body elections and that there is plenty of time to fill in the voting papers and get them in the post. Members agreed this makes it easy for most people.

It was also noted that e-voting is going to be trialled for the first time at the next local body elections. Members offered to help test the e-voting system if it is to be trialled in Wellington.

9 Matters arising/Adoption of minutes

Tristram moved that the minutes from the previous meeting were true and correct. Paula seconded the motion and it was passed.

International Day of People with Disabilities Event

Members thought that the event had gone well and that it had helped the AAG's relationships with the wider community. The AAG has been invited to a People First meeting in the New Year.

Tristram moved a vote of thanks to the event organisers. Michael seconded the motion and it was passed.

Response to queries about accessibility advisor role

The responsible manager provided the following written response to concerns about the WCC not having an accessibility advisor:

- The role was always a 2 year fixed term contract – it has not been disestablished
- The action plan and the advisor role was about embedding accessibility within business as usual across the council
- The community services unit will still be responsible for monitoring and collating the Annual

Report on Council's progress on implementation

- The WCC has developed a three year contract with Be Accessible to work across the city on the WCC's behalf.

Members would like to know more about the process for establishing the Be Accessible contract and the scope of the contract.

The responsible manager will attend the next AAG meeting to answer questions.

10. Project reports

Michael will invite members to form a working group on mobility parking in the New Year.

The Co-Chair will develop an Annual Report in the first quarter of 2015.

Julia reported that her work on dog parks was complete.

The AAG would like to review the forward programme when it is revised.

11. Other business

Simon will find out when oral submission will be heard on the Island Bay Cycle Way and when the AAG will receive feedback on its submission.

Lee will email Cr Woolf regarding accessible access to The Stadium and the need for a consistent approach from security guards.

Progress against the work programme and work planning will be scheduled for the first meeting of 2015.

12. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at 5.30pm, Tuesday 27 January 2015 in Committee Room One