

Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Group Meeting

Date: Tuesday, 26 November 2019

Time: 5:34pm–7.28pm

Venue: Level 8 Mayors Office, Wellington City Council,
113 The Terrace, Wellington

PRESENT

Co-Chairpersons

Tristram Ingham and Rachel Noble

Members

Erikka Helliwell

Rosie Mcleod

Stuart Mills

Solmaz Nazari Orakani

Alan Royal

Nick Ruane

Councillor

Councillor Rebecca Matthews

In Attendance

Hedi Mueller – Democracy Advisor

Kay Houlahan – Democracy Advisor

Jenny Rains - Community Services Manager

Moana Mackey – Chief City Planner

Kristine Ford – Senior Policy Advisor

Hugh Wilson – Transport Project Engineer

1. MEETING PROCEDURES

1.1 Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed all present.

1.2 Apologies

Apologies for Erikka Helliwell were received.

1.3 Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

1.4 Confirmation of Minutes – Minutes of 29 October 2019

That the minutes of 29 October 2019 be adopted as a true and accurate record.

Moved Tristram Ingham, seconded Nick Ruane

Carried

2. General Business

5:42pm

2.1 Introductions

- Councillor Matthews is the Council appointee to the AAG, and advised that she is keen to support the ongoing strategic role of the AAG.
- Kristine Ford is implementing the Accessible Wellington Action Plan and is committed to working with the group and making Wellington more accessible, through practical tasks, guided by community themselves.

Members discussed:

- The purpose of the steering group, set up to improve communications so that WCC is aware of what the rest of the Council is doing.
- Committing to the AAG meetings as a mutual safe space, so that members, Councillors and officers feel welcome and listened to.
- High staff turnover being an issue.

2.2 Democracy Services Update

- David Karl has decided to submit a paper on playground accessibility rather than present to the group.
- David Lee has advised he has asked Greater Wellington Regional Council to formally request that he be a GWRC representative on the AAG.
- Arts Access Aotearoa is happy to work with AAG on accessibility issue with State Opera House. Kristine Ford advised that State Opera House will be audited in Accessible Wellington action plan, as the plan includes all Council-owned buildings.
- WCC will be reviewing the local election and has been advised of AAG interest in this, particularly in voter turnout by disability.
- October meeting payments have been delayed and will be processed on 4 December.

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.1 E-Scooter Review Update

6:04pm

Presenter: Hugh Wilson, Transport Project Engineer, Wellington City Council

Hugh Wilson presented on the e-scooter review, as the e-scooter trial will be finishing on 18th December 2019. From 9 December a survey with three streams (residents' panel, general public and AAG) will be sent out, links can be shared with other people and printed version of survey will also be available. If there is a low response rate to the survey, it would be possible to run it again in late January. Hugh advised that e-scooters will remain in action after the end of the survey and trial, as the e-scooter licence runs until the end of 2020. Hugh is aiming to take report to Strategy and Policy Committee meeting in either February or March. If the recommendation is that e-scooters are removed or that conditions are imposed (such as permitted spaces, docking/racking requirements or speed limits) this could only happen after the SPC meeting.

Members discussed with the presenter:

- That AAG members do not represent specific disability groups.
- Education on road etiquette is needed for e-scooter users.
- Feedback on trips not taken would be useful.
- Any response from Central Government – other than Accessible Streets package, no.
- How e-scooter trial bypassed AAG when it went directly to City Strategy Committee.

- Personal accountability for e-scooter users is only in-app.
- Risk of general public completing AAG survey.

Action:

The presenter agreed to:

- Combine the AAG stream with the general public stream, and instead include a disability-orientated question so the survey respondents could identify themselves.
- Work with AAG on phrasing of said question.

3.2 Workshop on Work Programme and Portfolios

6.31pm

Presenter: Kay Houlahan, Democracy Advisor, Wellington City Council

Kay Houlahan presented on the forward programme for the WCC and how this could align with AAG interests for future meetings.

Members discussed with the presenter:

- Would like to see Let's Get Wellington Moving report prior to it being taken to the Strategy and Policy Committee meeting on 26 February 2020.
- Regular input wanted for Housing Strategy Update and Planning for Growth.

Action:

The Advisory group resolved to list the reports they are interested prior to the 3 February 2019 meeting.

Democracy Services agreed to:

- Compile the list and draft the forward plan.

3.3 Workshop on Emergency Management

6.42pm

Presenter: Jenny Rains, Community Services Manager, Wellington City Council

Jenny Rains presented on the formal response and recovery after an emergency event. Emergency management has many streams and Recovery is a local role, not covered by Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO). Jenny Rains advised that her role is to ensure they are meeting the needs of people and animal by working with WREMO to develop a plan around 'preparedness'. This would include ensuring coherent messaging on the day and defining accessible sites. Jenny Rains would like to present a workshop at some point in the AAG's forward programme.

Members discussed with the presenter:

- Health passports and the Trauma Intel Group (WCC, DHBs, police, ACC and Wellington Free Ambulance) sharing information.
- Difference between Community Hubs run by volunteers and the formal Emergency Welfare Assistance Centres which are the formal response from WCC.
- How to help those who decline help.

Action:

The Advisory group resolved to invite Jenny Rains to present a workshop at the February 26 meeting, and return quarterly for updates.

4. AAG Members only time

7:03pm

- Tristram Ingham and Rachel Noble met with Mayor Foster and it was good to get AAG on his radar. They discussed the Swan Lane/Garrett Street project and the Long Term Plan. Mayor Foster is open to discussions about Let's Get Wellington Moving.
- Members discussed 'champions' - having critical people within each department to champion accessibility for all. A top down approach is preferred and would like to get new Chief Executive Barbara McKerrow on board.
- Tristram Ingham advised that all Council Chief Executives have received a survey from the Office of Disability Issues regarding the availability of reference groups.

Action:

- Moana Mackey to discuss with Liam Farrell whether there is not still time for AAG feedback to be included in plan.

The meeting was declared closed at 7:28pm.

The next AAG meeting will be held on 3 February 2020 at 5.30pm.