

Accessibility Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

Committee Room 1, WCC Building, 101 Wakefield Street, Wellington

Tuesday 30 January 2018, 5:30pm – 7.30

Co-Chairs	Michael Bealing, Nick Ruane
Members present	Allan Royal, Stuart Mills, Solmaz Nazari Orakani
Staff present	Caleb Bridgeman Senior Democracy Advisor + Cr David Lee

1. Opening, Apologies and Minutes

5.30pm

Apologies from Tristram Ingham, and Tim Pate

The group noted their apologies.

2. Alice Bates, Accessibility Action Plan

5.45pm

The AAG met to discuss and provide feedback on the Accessibility Action Plan – provided by Alice Bates.

Feedback: General

- More specificity – the document is very generalised.
- Can there be more specific information on what the document is hoping to achieve.
- Question: what is the Council doing now (Regarding accessibility)?
 - Can the Council be more proactive in making the City accessible *now*?
 - What are they trying to achieve?
 - And what does “accessible” mean?
 - What is the Council’s goal?
- Further, that goal needs to be more aspirational.

- Concern about work becoming incremental – So the document only seems to represent small, slow, incremental change.
- Therefore, this needs a stretch / strategic goal. This plan must be more than incremental – it should be exciting and aspirational.
- Currently, there doesn't appear to be any long-term target.
 - Should this plan not link to a long-term goal?
- Not specific on areas of interest. What are the actions for building environments?
 - Because as it stands they are disappointing.
- Further, can this plan / document be more innovative generally? If this is an accessible plan – then it needs to consider innovation. Particularly when there is a significant breadth of impairment – including cognitive impairment.
- The plan should encourage more innovation, and must be more exciting.
- The plan must be more aspirational in the medium to long-term.
 - And there must be clarity regarding to what standard *something* will be *accessible*.
 - Because – what does *'being accessible'* mean?
- The Council should look at the research that is available on what 'good practise' is – and then consider what would that mean for WCC?
- Question – has there been any demographic work done?
 - If not, will the council undertake that work?
- What about disability projections? How many people will be living with a disability in the next 5, 10, 20 years?
- WREDA – is there an ability to help business include people with impairments? Is that something that the plan could consider?
- Could the plan include economic considerations in the accessible journey?

Feedback on:

Introduction

- Could include an aspirational goal.
- Could reference the natural disability framework
- Think about a more catchy name / title for the document.
- The last paragraph – should be the first paragraph
- Check sentence structure – “the flow of the plan is fewer ...”

Background

- Could include: The history of accessibility in Wellington City Council – e.g. the previous connotations of AAG?
- Why / how is this plan different from previous plans – further what were the lessons learned from previous plans?
- Add footnote: and explain where the term “accessible journey? Comes from – there should be a reference to that. (see Human Rights Commission 1996 – reference)
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Meeting closed 7.30pm