

11.2 MINUTES - DISABILITY INCLUSION ACTION REFERENCE GROUP COMMITTEE - 24 AUGUST 2023 - ATTACHMENT

Attachment Titles:

1. Minutes - Disability Inclusion Access Reference Group - 24 August 2023

Attachment 1 - 20230824 - Minutes - Disability Inclusion Access Reference Group Committee



Notice of Meeting

**DISABILITY INCLUSION ACCESS
REFERENCE GROUP COMMITTEE**

Thursday, 24 August 2023 at 11:30 AM
Via Video Link

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1. COMMENCING AT:

11.39am

2. PRESENT:

Voting Members: Cr Thomson, Fiona Scott (Valmar), Kerein Mullins (intereach) Christine Webb and Martin Brown.

Staff Delegate: (SVC Community Development) Lisa McAuliffe

In Attendance: (SVC Coordinator Place Activation) Sophie Gairn

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY:

Snowy Valleys Council proudly acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of this land and water and pay respects to their Elders past and present.

An acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of the land was delivered by martin Brown.

4. APOLOGIES:

Sonia Rattey (Connect me Counselling) and Catherine Anderson (Kurrajong)

5. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

Nil.

6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**6.1. MINUTES - DISABILITY INCLUSION ACCESS REFERENCE GROUP - 29 JUNE 2023**

DIA8/23 RESOLVED:

THAT:

1. **The Minutes of the Disability Inclusion Access Reference Group meeting held on 29 June 2023 be received with amendment to apologies to include Cr Thomson as an apology.**

7. BUSINESS ARISING:**Pathway between Currawong Road to the Bull Paddock Tumut**

Chair of committee sent a letter to Council regarding the footpath from Currawong St to the Bull Paddock in Tumut. The response from Council was presented and is below.

Thank you for raising the issue of a footpath from Currawong St to the Bull Paddock in Tumut.

Council officers have been investigating the feasibility of extending the footpath along the Snowy Mountains Highway (SMH) south of Sydney Street for many years. This has found significant challenges that make the project currently unviable for Council to pursue. These issues include but are not limited to:

- *Keeping separation of the footpath from the SMH for users*
- *Traversing the gully with appropriate drainage structures between Sydney Street and Broughton Street*
- *Crossing of the Snowy Mountains Highway at a suitable location and a suitable treatment*
- *Construction of retaining walls whilst also maintaining accesses to already constructed premises.*

Council has standardised the construction of footpaths to a minimum of 1.5m to enable use by all of our community. This includes funded works on Forest Street and Herbert Street which will enable better connectivity for non-vehicular traffic into the centre of town whilst keeping them away from the higher use SMH. The other option that Council has looked at is providing connectivity from Capper Street to Fitzroy Street along Howick Street or Herbert Street to the Bull Paddock. Council will continue to investigate these options further and seek opportunities for funding when they become available.

Regards

Manager Technical Services

Accessible and inclusive events

The committee discussed opportunities that have presented regarding events possible to be held in region in the later part of the year that are accessible and inclusive and therefore meeting the needs for People with Disability (PwD). The committee agreed that contacting local groups and organisations in the area to seek information regarding any planned events during carers week.

Carers week in October - intereach interested in driving one off event for carers. Possibly a lunch to just come together and have a chat and share any tips of support. Committee members discussed that the events should be held to benefit the carer.

Accessible toilet installed between Tumut and Wagga

Tumut Community Association has identified areas where accessible toilets could be positioned along the Sturt Highway on the southern side of Tumut. The toilets will assist residents with disabilities from the northern end of the Local Government Area when travelling the route to wagga for appointments. Tumut Community association is seeking letters of support to support their project.

8. AGENDA ITEMS:

8.1. MATTERS - DISABILITY INCLUSION ACCESS REFERENCE GROUP - 24 AUGUST 2023

DIA9/23 RESOLVED:

THAT THE COMMITTEE:

Receive the report Disability Inclusion Access Reference Group Committee Matters - 24 August 2023

Review and discuss the report on Disability Inclusion Access Reference Group Committee Matters - 24 August 2023.

Christine Webb/Kerien Mullins

CARRIED

8.1 Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) - Year 1 Actions - Progress report

Focus Area 1: Attitudes and behaviours	Comment
Councillors and staff will improve capability and capacity to:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> role model and adopt inclusive behaviours and attitudes 	Council has adopted an EEO, Diversity & Inclusion Plan and development will be incorporated as part of this plan for our Councillors and staff to model inclusive behaviours and attitudes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide workplace experience and employ people with disabilities and carers of people with disability. 	The training planned, mentioned in other action comments will also address this action as well. It is anticipated that as well as the training there will be ongoing awareness through onboarding programs and communications with staff to continue to reinforce the skills and attitudes required.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> value and expand the role of the DIARG. 	No update
Advocate for a higher presence of disability service providers and advocacy services in the SVC.	Advocacy through membership and connections developed in Interagency Reference group which includes Disability Advocacy and providers. NDIS providers currently servicing the needs of clients with disabilities within SVC.
Focus Area 2: Liveable communities	
All planning and technical staff will undertake training and adopt the principles of universal design.	Universal design principals incorporated into any OSF new asset project
People with disability and carers will be consulted through the design and planning stages of public facilities upgrades, and infrastructure projects.	No Update
Continuously upgrade recreational facilities (playgrounds, sports fields, amenities, parks, etc) to incorporate access and inclusion provisions to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act and the relevant Australian Building and Construction Codes.	Open Space & Facilities Team are continuously upgrading council facilities and incorporate disability access provisions in all their upgrades. They are guided by best available design & planning principals
Focus Area 3: Meaningful Employment	
Review position descriptions, recruitment processes and onboarding to ensure people with disability including staff are not excluded from applying	Training in this area has been included in the upcoming training budget for 23/24 financial year to improve capabilities. Initial work has commenced on a reasonable adjustment procedure to work in with the Recruitment Policy and Procedure
Review compliance with the Carers Recognition Act 2010 formally recognising the role of carers	Requirements of the Act have been reviewed, Carer recognition has been incorporated into the EEO, Diversity & Inclusion and has started to be

Focus Area 1: Attitudes and behaviours	Comment
	integrated into policy reviews to build awareness in decision making.
Focus Area 4: Council systems and processes	
Progressively review policies, processes and systems for inclusion and access. Consult DIARG in the process as required.	Participate in meetings and provide input as required from my service areas. Community Development conducted a review of the DIARG Terms of Reference. DIARG also actively participate in the review of processes and systems. Minutes of committee meetings are reported to Council meeting.

8.2 Disability Sports Australia event - Community Development

Activate Inclusion Sports Day

Council has been successful on being selected to host Disability Sports Australia's Activate Inclusion Program! The Activate Inclusion events are initiatives focused on promoting active pathways for people with disabilities and to encourage and empower participants to explore local active opportunities in a fun and inclusive environment. The program also provides a platform for local inclusive program and disability service providers to collaborate and connect to people with disabilities in their area.

Community Development to proceed in following up on the possibility to host the event in December aligning with the Snowy Valleys Disability and Inclusion Action Plan and recognizing significant weeks and/or days at that time of the year such as International Day of People with Disability.

8.3 Response to Committee from Council, following Committees recommendation to open the toilets at the Tumut Swimming Pool.

In response, Council is not in a position to open the toilets at the Tumut Swimming Pool to the public, this would pose a security risk to the facility. New toilets planned for Rotary Pioneer Park will feature one accessible and one ambulant booth. i

9. GENERAL BUSINESS:

It's fantastic to see a sign at the arched bridge over the creek in Tumbarumba, directing wheelchairs to the other bridge behind Hammonds, that's fantastic as this is one of the issues raised after the TumbFest weekend.

connectmecounselling happy to look at options to run a small event on or around the 3rd of December 2023 with the theme International Day of People with Disability.

10. NEXT MEETING:

Meeting Closed: 12.55pm.

Next Meeting: Online, Thursday 26 October 2023 at 1130am.