

MINUTES

KINGBOROUGH DISABILITY INCLUSION & ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting No. 2024-4

Wednesday 14 August 2024

Minutes of a Meeting of the Kingborough Disability Inclusion & Access Advisory Committee held at the Kingborough Civic Centre, Kingston, on Wednesday 14 August 2024 at 2.00pm.

PRESENT

		PRESENT	APOLOGY
Chairperson	Cr Paula Wriedt	✓	
Deputy Chairperson	Cr Flora Fox	✓	
	David Vickery	✓	
	Di Carter		✓
	Fran Thompson	✓	
	Wendy Wade		✓
	David McQuillan		✓
	Heather Anderson	✓	
	Don Hempton	✓	
	Laura Della Pasqua		✓
	Kevin Clayton	✓	
	Dr Christine Materia	✓	
	Mary Cook		✓
Staff	Julie Alderfox (Community Development Officer)	✓	
	Bianca Kleine (Communications and Engagement Support Officer)	✓	
	Anthony Verdouw (Executive Officer Engineering Services)	✓	
Guests	Warwick Keating SMEG, consultant in Transport Strategy	✓	

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

The Chairperson acknowledged and paid respect to the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as the traditional and original owners and continuing custodians of the land on which the Committee met and acknowledged elders past and present.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of 10 April were confirmed.

MOVED: Kevin Clayton

SECONDED: Dr. Christine Materia

That the Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 10 April 2024 as circulated, be confirmed.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

1. Transport Strategy

Warwick Keating, Associate Planner from SMEC, presented on the Kingborough Integrated Transport Strategy and proposed updates to set new objectives, guidelines and actions for the next 10 years and further into the future.

Feedback was invited from the committee members. The following items were raised:

Issues	Response
Lack of availability of wheelchair-accessible maxi taxis with no guarantee of a return trip	Noted
Unpredictability of traffic flow on the Southern Outlet and proposed usage of a Derwent River ferry as a facility of transport	The State Government is conducting a study on these issues. Kingborough shows potential for ferry services. If ferry services are established in Kingborough, it will have to meet DDA compliance standards. The existing ferry from Bellerive to Hobart is fully accessible.
Jack Jumpers performance centre and the potential for the AFL training centre in Kingston – is accessible parking being considered?	Yes, accessible parking has been put forward as a non-negotiable item of the discussions held about the potential AFL facilities, as well as the construction of a road and track linked to Spring Farm and sealing of Gormley Drive.
Climate change strategies	The strategy will be aligned with Council and Government strategies, including additional need for electronic car charging stations. Funding is available for a charging station in Margate, discussions were also held with Woodbridge residents who identified the need to install charging station in that area.
Suggestions to consult other groups, e.g. schools	Noted
How does the strategy consider peri urban and rural areas, specifically transport south of Snug and to and from Bruny Island?	Public Transport is governed by the State Government. Council can submit suggestions. It was noted that Spring Farm and Whitewater Estate are not serviced by public transport and there is potential for additional bus stops.
Community transport – difficulties finding available transport providers who take wheelchairs or walkers	It was suggested to contact transport service providers (CTST, Cancer Council, Red Cross) and ask why wheelchairs and walkers are not accepted.
Lack of funding for existing bus stops	Bus stops lacking shelter and seating discourage public transport use. Of the 89 bus stops that require improvements, current funding is insufficient to address them all. It was noted that all buses are accessible.

The chair thanked Mr Keating for presenting.

2. Action Plan

The proposed amendments to the DIAAC Action Plan were accepted by the committee (attached).

MOVED: Don Hempton

SECONDED: David Vickery

That the proposed amendments to the DIAAC Action Plan as circulated, be accepted and put up to Council for approval.

Carried unanimously

3. Snug Foreshore Signage

Wording has been forwarded to Engineering Services to enable production of signs.

4. Coningham Accessible Parking Bay

Engineering Services are working on the accessible parking bay near the toilet block.

5. Personal Mobility Devices (PMD)

Clarification was sought on the terminology of PMDs. PMDs are scooters, not mobilised wheelchairs. Neither Council nor the Police enforce any regulations regarding the use of PMDs.

6. International Day of People with Disability – 3 December 2024

Council will fly the Disability Pride flag on the community flag pole. Baptcare are considering facilitating a Disability Expo at the Community Hub.

Participants suggested the following ideas:

- Panel discussion, listen to lived experience, include members of the committee to share
- Presentations of volunteers talking about their work
- Facilitate workshops about unconscious bias in aged care and disability
- Promotion of event via Kingborough Chronicle and social media
- Consider promotions throughout the year
- Incorporate disability access in planning of new buildings, considering its economic benefits in the long run for home owners and their visitors opposed to facilitating access retrospectively
- Offer to visitors to navigate through the area in a wheelchair

7. Policy Reviews and positive ageing policy

It was noted that elderly people have recently been targeted by people doorknocking, pretending to be canvassing for charities such as Canteen, Breast Cancer Tasmania and other. Cr. Wriedt suggested that she write to the Minister to propose that door-to-door fundraising and sales be prohibited in Tasmania.

MOVED: Don Hempton

SECONDED: Fran Thompson

That Council write to the Minister of Community Affairs to recommend that door to door fundraising and sales be outlawed in Tasmania for the reason of the safety of the residents.

A copy of this letter to be forwarded to Council's Safety Committee.

Motion carried unanimously

8. Neurodiversity - Council interactions

Update on training of front desk staff – no further training needs were identified. Customer service officers are diversity aware, respectful and deliver inclusive service. CSOs can generally distinguish between real aggression and frustration and adjust their tone and behaviour accordingly. New customer service staff receive training from experienced officers. If customers are frustrated, customer service staff discretely addresses the frustration, e.g. staff offer to providing assistance to fill out forms e.g. for people with vision impairment.

It was noted that a neurodiverse person may at times say something inappropriate and this kind of behaviour may impact customer service staff, especially during extreme events or over time. Employees are encouraged to use employee assistance program for support after these events.

The question was asked if compliance officers are made aware of neurodiversity. Cr Wriedt agreed to **follow up** with compliance if officers are aware.

CORRESPONDENCE

Inward:

- Georgia Hardy, the new Community Engagement Officer at ParaQuad Tasmania, has requested to be added to our contact list and informed of relevant events for people with physical disabilities. The committee agreed to invite Georgie to the October meeting.
- Nomination from Baptcare Representative – the most recent nominee has resigned and we are hoping for a new nomination to occur

Outward:

- Request for information from Disability Voices Tasmania re Wheelchair accessible taxis (WATs) changes – no reply.

Discussion followed – this issue was raised three years ago, a list of suggestions such as provision of incentives for drivers operating WATs was sent to the Ministers with request for financial assistance. It was noted that Uber don't accept wheelchairs, taxi drivers and

generally prefer to transport groups of people. Cr. Wriedt offered to send another letter to the Ministers.

MOVED: Fran Thompson
SECONDED: Kevin Clayton

That Council write another letter to the Minister of Transport, the Minister of Disability Services and all other parties represented in the State Parliament to raise the issue of the lack of availability of wheelchair accessible taxis.

Motion carried.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

1. The committee identified the need for changing places and a wheelchair storage facility at Kingston Beach toilets. Request to be forwarded to the relevant officer to include into the CAPEX program
2. Participants recently attended a function as part of the Governor's visit to Kingborough and would now like to organise an end-of-year gathering for social interaction.
3. Farewell Julie Alderfox. The forum members and Cr. Wriedt thanked Julie for her many years of assistance with the committee.

NEXT MEETING – 9 October 2024

CLOSURE: There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 3.41 pm.

Attachments:

- Draft Revision of DIAAC Action Plan
- Proposed new Action Plan August 2024

Summary of action items:

Contact transport service providers (e.g. CTST, Cancer Council, Red Cross) and ask why wheelchairs and walkers are not accepted and possibly invite a presenter to the	
--	--

October meeting	
Contact Bapcare regarding the proposed Disability Expo on International Day of People with a Disability on 3 December	
Cr Wriedt to follow up with compliance to find out if officers are aware of neurodiversity.	
Invite Georgia Hardy, the new Community Engagement Officer at ParaQuad Tasmania to the October forum.	
The committee identified the need for changing places and a wheelchair storage facility at Kingston Beach toilets. Request to be forwarded to the relevant officer to include into the CAPEX program.	
Motions	
The Committee adopted a motion requesting Council's approval of the final draft of the Disability Inclusion and Access Plan.	
The Committee adopted a motion requesting that Council write to the Minister of Community Affairs to recommend that door to door fundraising and sales be made illegal in Tasmania for the reason of the safety of the home owner.	
The Committee adopted a motion requesting that Council write another letter to the Minister of Transport, the Minister of Disability Services and all other parties represented in the State Parliament to raise the issue of the lack of availability of wheelchair accessible taxis.	