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Subject:	Access Advisory Committee		
File No:	COR 2013/207		
Document Ref:	D15/156476		
Venue:	Meeting Room 1, Level 5, Civic Centre		
Date:	25 th November 2015		
Time:	5.00pm	Started at: 5.00 pm	Closed at: 6.25 pm
Chair:	Gunjan Tripathi		
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors		

Committee Role:

Advises and makes recommendations to Council on matters relating to access issues, with particular emphasis on issues for people with disabilities as defined by UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Clr Denise Pendleton	Chairperson	City of Ryde
x		Brian Bernard	Community Representative	
		Connie Netterfield	Community Representative	
		Diane O' Brien	Community Representative	
x		Doris Carrall	Community Representative	
x		Greg McClure	Community Representative	
x		Barbara Stannard	Community Representative	
x		Hazel Myers	Community Representative	
		Neita Matthews OAM	Community Representative	
x		Seaja Chang	Community Representative	
		Rebecca Ho	Community Representative	

Other Attendees

Name	Position Title
Gunjan Tripathi	Senior Coordinator – Cultural and Social Planning
Cemile Yuksel	Community Projects Officer – Social Inclusion

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	Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
1.	Welcome: Clr Pendleton welcomed all to the final meeting for 2015.	Noted	
2.	Attendance and apologies: As above	Noted	
3.	Confirmation of Minutes and matters arising – 30th September 2015 <u>Social Inclusion Campaign</u> A verbal report was provided on the launch of the City of Ryde Social Inclusion Campaign held on 25 th November 2015. The talk by Laura O'Reilly of "Fighting Chance" was very well received. Laura continues to make a huge contribution to the organisation despite the death of the brother that Fighting Chance to established to support, Council will host an NDIS information session on 3 rd December 2015 to provide information on the changes to disability services and funding which will occur with the introduction of the NDIS from 1 July 2016. The committee expressed concern that the NDIS will not cover everyone with a disability and that it does not address the issues and challenges faced by carers. People still need "a label" to receive assistance. Many carers are "invisible" and worry what will happen to their adult children when they are no longer able to care for them.	The minutes of the meeting of 30 th September 2015 were confirmed.	

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	Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
	<p><u>Developing public mapping interface that displays inclusive and accessible Council facilities on the website</u></p> <p>The Land Information System section of Council has advised that new software is being obtained which is more user friendly in showing the location of facilities and toilets. The new software will display information from the national toilet map in a local mapping application.</p> <p><u>Public toilets at Meadowbank</u></p> <p>A question was raised regarding the closure of the public toilets at Meadowbank Wharf. When the toilets are closed, people are referred to the toilets in the park but this is a long distance away for people who are not very mobile.</p> <p><u>Community Directory</u></p> <p>It was noted that the decision of Council to no longer print the community directory discriminates against some members of the community without access to computers.</p>	<p>This matter to come back to this committee next year for further update.</p> <p>Staff to investigate and report back.</p> <p>It was noted that information is available at the library or via a phone request to Council.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Social Inclusion Week</u></p> <p>It was noted that in addition to the two events mentioned above – campaign launch and NDIS information session, that a group of service providers had travelled to Auburn Council to attend a forum on disability.</p> <p>The marketing team at Council will also be conducting a session to seek information from staff as to their place of birth.</p>		

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p><u>City of Ryde – preparing for NDIS 3rd December 2015 information session</u></p> <p>Barbara Stannard advised that she had attended a conference held by Australian Society of Intellectual Disability</p> <p>She noted that when people turn 65, they will be moved from the NDIS to the aged pension.</p> <p>If someone is on the NDIS prior to turning 65, they will stay on that scheme. If you are not on the NDIS, you cannot join it after the age of 65.</p> <p>It was noted that Council is hosting an information session on the NDIS on 3rd December.</p> <p>Future events in languages other than English may be held.</p> <p>If further events are to be held, publicity is to be arranged through community media for other languages.</p> <p><u>Mental Health issues in public places</u></p> <p>Hazel Myers recounted an incident at Woolworths where she was unsure how to act in a situation involving a person with a mental illness.</p> <p>Barbara Stannard outlined a situation where she was confronted by a person with a mental illness behaving inappropriately at a cricket match.</p> <p>It was agreed that it was difficult for this committee to provide advice or make comment about such incidents.</p> <p>It was noted that Gladesville Hospital would have better resources.</p>	<p>Questions raised at NDIS seminar are to be written on slips of paper so that answers can be provided after the event if they are not responded to on the day.</p> <p>Publicity for future events held in languages other than English is to be provided in community newspapers.</p> <p>In 2016, this matter is to be further discussed with reference to the community resources available, advice re Council's role and the issues of concern to carers.</p> <p>NSW Mental Health Action Plan was released last year. Invite a guest to discuss this plan.</p> <p>Raise awareness during the Mental Health Week.</p>	

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date		
<p>Other Business</p> <p><u>Hazel Myers – Bus stops</u></p> <p>Hazel advised she has noticed many bus stops that are not suitable for use by people with a disability. She provided examples where stops are a long way from the intended destination or have impediments nearby that make their use difficult.</p> <p>She also outlined examples where signage designed to assist people is of no benefit to people with sight impairment or is located in such a manner as to be useless to people with a mobility disability.</p> <p><u>Greg McClure – visit to Switzerland</u></p> <p>Greg provided more information regarding his recent trip to Switzerland and the way in which facilities are provided to allow disabled people to take part fully in society eg trains with ramps that automatically allow access of wheelchairs, etc.</p> <p><u>Seaja Chang</u></p> <p>Changes in the Aged Care sector - Community Home Support Program ended 1 July 2015.</p> <p>My Aged Care website – not working well. There is a need for more community education around how to access the information and how the existing information services have been replaced by the web based information.</p> <p><u>Barbara Stannard</u></p> <p>Barbara advised she is currently employed by ADHC as part of the Community Support Team but that her role is soon to be ended.</p>			<p>It was noted that organisations such as Councils should get things right in the first instance and at the planning stage to avoid the types of issues outlined.</p>	

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p>She advised she has built a strong knowledge of her clients over the years and that many of them now worry about their future care.</p> <p>She advised her group is no longer able to visit children in schools in the 0 – 8 range but that some schools are now employing therapists themselves</p> <p>She highlighted her ongoing concern for parents who spend their entire lives caring for a disabled child, especially concerns as they grow older about who will continue to care for the child.</p> <p>She reiterated that caring for a disabled child should be the responsibility of society not just the parents.</p> <p><u>Doris Carroll</u></p> <p>Doris advised that she had recently attended an event at which HRH Prince Charles and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall were present.</p> <p>5. Approximately 270 people were in attendance including children and adults, scouts, people in wheelchairs.</p> <p>Doris was invited due to her involvement with arthritis organisations.</p> <p>Camilla is the patron Arthritis and Osteoporosis groups in the UK.</p> <p>Next Meeting: 5pm Wednesday 23 March 2016 5.00 – 6.30pm</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p>	