

Meeting Minutes

Date: 7 December 2023	Time: 10am – 12pm	Venue: Level 1, City Administration Centre
Meeting Objective: To provide advice and guidance in the application of planning instruments that prioritise access, social inclusion and overcoming discriminatory impediments to promote a highly accessible, inclusive and welcoming community that respects independence and human dignity.		

1. Welcome

Committee Members Present

Cr Margaret Wood	Councillor, City of Newcastle (Co-Chair)
Cr Dr Elizabeth Adamczyk	Councillor, City of Newcastle
Cr Katrina Wark	Councillor, City of Newcastle
Andrew Vodic	CDAH (Co-Chair)
Patrick Bellamy	Clear Sky
Chad Ramage	Accessibility in the City
Ben Moxey	Community Representative
Lindsay Gardner	Community Representative
Stewart MacLennan	Community Representative
Lynn Duffy	Executive Manager Community & Recreation (Facilitator), City of Newcastle
Petria Jukes	Community Planning & Development Manager, City of Newcastle
Tanya Marmara	Community and Recreation Operations Officer, City of Newcastle

Apologies

Cr Nuatali Nelmes	Lord Mayor, City of Newcastle
Sandra Irons	Community Representative

Guests:

Simone Soeters	Social Planner, City of Newcastle
Stephen Warham	Community Development Facilitator, City of Newcastle
Nick Kaiser	Interim Executive Manager Media Engagement Economy & Corporate Affairs, City of Newcastle
Sherelle Charge	Acting Executive Manager Planning Transport & Regulation, City of Newcastle
Sarah Horan	Senior Project Planner, City of Newcastle

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

An acknowledgement of Country was delivered.

1.2 Apologies

The Committee acknowledged apologies from Lord Mayor Cr Nuatali Nelmes and Sandra Irons.

1.3 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts declared.

2. Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Minutes from the AIAC meeting held on 19 October 2023 were confirmed as a true and accurate recording of the meeting. Committee members accepted the minutes.

3. Walking and Mobility Working Group Update and Terms of Reference

Cr Adamczyk discussed the updated Terms of Reference (TOR) and action plan for the walking and mobility working group. The Working Group will continue to meet for the next couple of months with feedback, progress and actions brought back to AIAC by Cr Adamczyk.

The new TOR distributed to AIAC members and main changes were summarised by Cr Wood.

Formal motion to accept the new TOR for Walking and Mobility Working Group - **unanimously adopted**.

The next Working Group meeting will be held mid-December.

Action: Minutes from walking party to be distributed through Tanya to AIAC members.

4. Georgetown Local Centre Public Domain Upgrade

Sarah Horan provided a presentation to AIAC on the Georgetown Local Centre Public Domain upgrade. Sarah clarified that anytime the word pedestrian is mentioned it includes all types of pedestrians including wheelchairs and wheelchair access.

The Georgetown Local Centre Public Domain Plan (PDP) is currently on public exhibition and final plans may change as a result of the community engagement process. The Main objective of the PDP is to provide business precinct improvements, with improvements to pedestrian accessibility and connectivity, and reviewed vehicle / parking movements. This will also include managing footpath gradient where possible.

Accessible carpark spaces will be co-located. An electric vehicle charging station will be installed based on a grant that CN have applied for.

The issue of large trucks using Waratah as a thoroughfare was raised. Sarah advised the broader transport team will investigate heavy vehicles using Waratah as a 'shortcut' road.

Sarah advised this is still in concept design and welcomed feedback.

Action: AIAC members to provide any additional questions or feedback regarding the Georgetown Local Centre Public Domain upgrade via email to Petria or Cr Wood. Input will be passed onto Sarah.

5. DIAP Report 2022/2023

Simone presented the Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) progress report. There are four themes, 13 objectives and 35 actions included in the DIAP.

The report shows delivery across the 35 actions of the DIAP. The team are currently integrating reporting into the CAMMS corporate reporting system.

Suggestion was made that items on the AIAC agenda are linked to the DIAP action. This will be investigated for 2024.

AIAC members agree they can see a cultural shift starting at CN and in the community in terms of inclusion. However there is still a long way still to go. CN staff and councillors are working to progress the inclusion agenda across council.

Action - updated DIAP progress report from Community Planning and Development to be delivered to AIAC in 6 months.

6. Business Improvement Associations

CN has 4 identified precincts that have Business Improvement Associations (BIA) established and business levies in place.

The BIA's agree to deliver projects in line with activation and beautification up to an annual amount of \$100,000 per precinct.

CN staff are investigating how to progress identified actions of the DIAP and the possibility of a program that will see portable ramps or something similar roll out to specific areas.

The group discussed locality for a trial or pilot noting the opportunity to promote a precinct as an accessible precinct. It was noted that this is a cultural change piece, with the need for education, awareness and encouragement to raise businesses understanding of disability.

Action - Members encouraged to email Cr Wood about experience with ramps or send suggestions on how and why you would choose a particular precinct. Cr Wood will send out a list of BIA precincts to AIAC members so they can make an informed decision.

7. 2024 Meeting Functions and Priorities

Discussed a new time for AIAC meetings next year in case members want to change from the current Thursday morning time. Due to lack of time to consider it was decided that the first meeting of 2024 would be held 1st February 2024 with future meeting dates discussed then.

Action: Members encouraged to email through suggestions regarding new days and/or times prior to 1st February meeting.

8. General Business

8.1 AIAC Minute Format

Cr Wood advised AIAC members that moving forward the minutes would be more concise and relevant actions will be more focused.

Meeting closed: 12:20pm. Network lunch with CN's IDE - Accessibility group followed.

ACTIONS TABLE

Meeting Date	Item	Action	Update	Status
19 October 2023	Count Us In Report	CP&D to compile CUI report including feedback from Community Partner (CDAH)	In progress	Pending
19 October 2023	December meeting	Confirm December 2023 meeting details in combination with CN's internal Accessibility Network. (Aligned to International Day of People with Disability)	TBC by Lynn Duffy via CP&D	Completed
		Confirm AIAC meeting dates for 2024	TBC by Lynn Duffy via CP&D	Pending
19 October 2023	2024 Meeting Dates	Confirm AIAC meeting dates for 2024	TBC by Lynn Duffy via CP&D	Pending
7 December 2023	Walking and Mobility Working Group	Minutes from walking party to be distributed through Tanya to AIAC members.		
7 December 2023	Georgetown Local Centre Public Domain	Additional questions or feedback from AIAC members regarding this Georgetown Local Centre Public Domain upgrade is to be emailed to Petria or Cr Wood to be passed on to Sarah.		

7 December 2023	DIAP Report	Updated report from Community Planning and Development to be delivered to AIAC in 6 months.		
7 December 2023	Business Improvement Associations	Follow up - Members are encouraged to email Cr Wood your experience with ramps or your suggestions on how and why you would choose a particular precinct. Cr Wood will send out a list of BIA precincts to AIAC members so they can make an informed decision.		