



INNER WEST COUNCIL

Meeting summary

Group name: Seniors Local Democracy Group (LDG)

Date: 21 February 2019

Time: 6pm – 8.15pm

Venue: Ashfield Civic Centre, Ground Floor, 260 Liverpool Rd, Meeting Rm 2

Chair: Mary Ciantar interim

Minutes: Mary Ciantar

Attendees:

1. Rosemary Musson
2. Pauline Kim
3. Lorne Hyde
4. Norman Bradshaw
5. Vera-Ann Hannaford
6. Joanna Maxwell
7. Chrissie McIntyre
8. Angelo Arulanandam
9. Con Karais

1. Introduction and apologies

Welcome new members that were unable attend the introductory meeting in 2018 due to membership on more than one Committee.

Apologies:

- Graham Bennett
- Sandra Triulzi
- Shraddha Banthia

2. Disclosure of Interest

No additional disclosures noted.

3. Adopting the Terms of Reference

Summary

At the meet and greet in November the members present reviewed the ToR and made some amendments

Terms of Reference were adopted in principle with an amendment to the paragraph about the name of Committee.

Actions

- Amend the draft ToR to Working Parties as currently stated Advisory committees.
- A clarification of the difference between working groups and advisory committees.

4. Election of a Chairperson

Summary

At the meet and greet in November the members present suggested Chair role be rotated.

18/4: Vera

20/6: Norman

15/8: Joanna

17/10: Sandra.

No back up Chairs were discussed.

Actions

- Group members to be sent a copy of Role of Chairperson document as attached to minutes.

5. Current ageing portfolio and direction

5.1 identifying focus of future meetings

5.2 caring inclusive communities (age/dementia friendly)

Summary

Council staff member, Simon Watts, Social and Cultural Planning Manager, provided an update to the group about:

- The Healthy Ageing and Direct Services Review.
- The context of Community Services and Culture in relation to the Community Wellbeing Survey.

At the time of amalgamation, it was noted that with Commonwealth Home Support Program changes, a review of Council's services configuration would be reviewed at some point. The changes to funding are a catalyst to review how it supports all older residents to achieve wellbeing. It is anticipated that options for changes will be brought to Council in November 2019. Meeting the aspirations of the Community Strategic plan requires new partnerships in support of older people, and new roles in policy, advocacy and program provision.

See Attachment 1 for *Input by group –What is Councils role in ageing space*

Mary Ciantar, Supervisor of the Healthy Ageing Programs team provided a short update about her team's role in the Healthy Ageing space. This role attracts some Commonwealth funding with a work plan to 2020 in place. The Healthy Ageing Team delivered an evaluation in 2018 of its programs and the area of communication was also highlighted. Council has been approached by organisations targeting new and pending retirees to address associated issues: socialisation, skill sharing, staying active and mental health (loneliness).

At the meet and greet in November 2018 many people expressed interest in contributing to improving communication in the community about opportunities for older people. Themes from November meeting included: Communication Strategies, age discrimination and caring communities and connections. NSW Ageing Strategy also provides outcome areas to focus on.

Ideas

- Marrickville Pay it Forward.
- Waverton Hub Model – mirrored by [Agency hub](#) in Balmain peninsula.
- Assets based community development model – Local Social was piloted in Leichhardt. Meet up groups (not council) across Sydney are evidence of a need to provide spaces for older people to socialise.
- Some healthy ageing programs in council have become independent – Haberfield Choir, Women's shed. Some still supported but run by volunteer/s and committees such as HOPE lunch; Table Tennis; and Shared Cooking at Annandale
- Garden Care model in Canterbury area raised as something that could be replicated in inner west.

Actions

- Note that the group would like opportunities to provide input– Ageing Review; Community Wellbeing Strategy; supporting delivery of the Community Strategic Plan and Inclusion Action plan most relevant.
- Focus of future meetings:

- Scope Retirement symposium – diverse cohorts of seniors across LGA and include:
 - Expo and stalls with a panel of speakers: volunteering, mental health, financial info
 - Con to provide information about Rosehill's Retirement Symposium each year
 - Could facilitate shared experiences and need experienced facilitator.
- Dementia month – September.
- Seniors Festival 2020.
- Input to Council to drive an age friendly community.
- Cross pollination with Inner West Aged Services Interagency and Inner west and Canterbury Elder Abuse Collaborative on projects.
- Send Communication plan

6. General business

Summary

The group was issued information about the Councils concepts designs for logo and branding and was encouraged to provide feedback using the on line survey. Some interim comments included: Logos should be immediately recognisable.

Actions

- Send information prior to the meeting, where possible about agenda items.

Next meetings 2019:

18 April

20 June

15 August

17 October

Chair: Vera – Ann Hannaford 18 April

Attachment 1: Input by group –What is Councils role in ageing space?

- Understanding if Council will still be involved in direct service delivery
- Advocacy
- Facilitation
- Residents making a difference
- How to generate money to still provide services
- Community initiatives
- Looking after services
- Conduit of ideas and what can do for community
- Connecting people
- Travelling across large LGA
- What we have with budget and what we can do with that
- Determining the asset costs
- Should not sell off assets
- Service delivery may diminish – change way we do things
- Grants, space, community development, co-design
- Could miss out on value of the social connections and structures if Council not involved in direct services
- Volunteering foot print important
- People left out
- The Royal Commission – could introduce options
- Elections may impact on review
- Inner west is over - subscribed in terms of aged care places and packages

