



Seniors Working Group

5 August 2021

MS Teams

6 – 7.30pm

Minutes

Meeting commenced 6pm and ended at 7.30pm.

1. Present

Community members	Staff	Councillors
1. Graham Bennet – Chair	Mary Ciantar, Healthy Ageing Programs Supervisor	Clr Marghanita Da Cruz
2. Angelo Arulanandam	Simon Watts, Social and Cultural Planning Manager	Clr Pauline Lockie
3. Craig McMahon		Clr Louise Steer.
4. Michael Carney		
5. Joanne Minitier		
6. Yash Sodhi		
7. Shraddha Banthia		
8. Con Karais		

2. Chairperson

1. Graham Bennet – Chair
2. Minutes – Mary Ciantar



3. Acknowledgment of Country

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and provided an Acknowledgment of Country.

4. Apologies

- Vera Anne Hannaford
- Norman Bradshaw

5. Disclosures of Interest

No conflicts of interest were disclosed.

6. Quorum (minimum 4 members)

7 in attendance, quorum achieved.

7. Confirmation of Minutes and Actions

- Craig McMahon and Angelo Arulanandam

8. Business arising

- Financial sessions

Agenda items

Item	Summary	Recommendations / actions	Council's response
1. Ageing Strategy and Action Plan Update - Simon Watts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simon Watts, Social and Cultural Planning Manager IWC presented the Healthy Ageing Strategy 2021-2025 and Action Plan, to enable feedback <p>The <i>Healthy Ageing Strategy</i> focuses on building participation and inclusion.</p> <p>There are six priority focus areas which enables participation and inclusion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. staying active 2. getting around and staying connected 3. housing employment and financial security 4. safety 	<p>Creating a Healthy Ageing Strategy Your Say Inner West (nsw.gov.au) Closes 19 Sept</p> <p>Consider whether to refer to Traffic Committee that all major roads should be 40km zoning where they cross areas where there are shops and pedestrians.</p>	<p>See attachment for Councillor comments</p> <p>State Government approved 40km zone in areas with high pedestrian traffic already, just need to implement.</p>

	<p>5. learning and sharing knowledge 6. health and diversity.</p> <p>The Power Point will be made available.</p> <p>All households will be delivered a flyer encouraging feedback and it is also advertised on Your Say</p> <p>See Attachment for discussion and feedback.</p>	<p>Consider that the use of the Council bus is extended to community groups instead of members of groups paying for a service going from their home to the group e.g Inner West Seniors Group.</p>	
	<p>Co-design interest in Action plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Hub • Financial Literacy • Public Transport infrastructure • Housing and financial security especially for women • Learning and Sharing knowledge as it overlaps with wellbeing, getting active. 		
<p>2. Financial Information sessions – scope event</p>	<p>A meeting was held with Yash Sodhi and Mary Ciantar on 22/6/21 to determine how best to commence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A series of programs spaced out every few weeks, so people don't get tired • First two topics should be globally relevant • Services NSW information about rebates might be best place to start • Build a schedule • Getting to know finances/Getting the most out of Centrelink- ask speaker what marketing material they use and how describe topic areas • Prepare survey to see what else they want • Do first sessions in same location • Review registrations to see if coming from other areas and then deliver there • Spring – avoid school holidays and continue as virtual. 	<p>Refine schedule using Teams due to COVID</p>	

3. General Business	Healthy Ageing Programs Seniors - Inner West Council (nsw.gov.au)		Clr Steer wanted to know if the Seniors theatre was still going in Ashfield Clr Da Cruz suggested the documents come back to the group after the exhibition period, once amended.
----------------------------	---	--	--



Attachment 1 - The *Healthy Ageing Strategy 2021-2025* and Action Plan – Seniors Working Group Feedback

Overall comments

Consideration of the word "Welfare" in addition to Health and Safety or Diversity. The Health and Safety Act 2011 also refers to Health, Safety as well as Welfare. Welfare in simple terms refer receipt of basic needs to survive with health and happiness

Additional Context - Targeting 50 year old's for the Ageing Strategy can be confusing

Clearer delineation between how this plan relates to the Disability Inclusion Plan.

Consistent language throughout - Referred to as Seniors (not preferred), Older people and ageing/Elders. in the Report. Adopt the World Health Organisation definition of older persons/people, rather than Seniors. This has been raised before by Seniors WG before in relation to using the word " Seniors"

Be useful to overlay current programs into this Strategy

1. Staying active

Key themes and discussion from Council	Seniors Working Group Comments	Councillor Response
<p><i>Key actions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adopt a measure of wellbeing • develop a community hub model to better connect older people to the broader community • support a diverse range of wellbeing initiatives in the community. <p><i>Discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of wellbeing activities for older people are delivered by many parts of council including libraries, recreation, aquatic centres, Healthy Ageing Community Development staff, Environment team and also in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at IWC area in thirds with a hub in part of the LGA • Inner West Seniors Group at Newtown Neighbourhood Centre is also a community hub, consider a broader understanding • Auditing of programs to determine needs and mix 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Libraries are important to be considered as hubs, offering a variety of activities, and located in several suburbs • A community hub should be somewhere people can walk to • Outreach aspects of libraries • Identify what Council is already doing • Schools being upgraded with opportunities to

<p>partnership with the community and private hirers. Free or low cost</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hannaford is a Council Centre that delivers programs and a useful model. Co-contribution towards programming costs extends reach to community • Many venues for hire that are used by HA Team and Non Govt Organisations • Newtown Neighbourhood Centre moving to Tom Foster site • 3 Bridges will be running Summer Hill Community Centre • Work closely with Non-Government Agencies • Successful breakfast club at Marrickville High • Cyber Seniors Intergenerational at 4 schools • A commitment in Action Plan to evaluate current programming within resources • Investing in footpaths means people can access programs – accessibility issues. • The new Disability Inclusion Plan will compliment this Strategy . The DIAP concludes 3/6/21. 		<p>include community facilities.</p>
--	--	--------------------------------------

2. Getting around and staying connected

Key themes and discussion from Council	Seniors Working Group Comments	Councillor Response
--	--------------------------------	---------------------

Key actions

- Improve infrastructure to support the comfortable use of public spaces, such as shade, age-friendly seating, bubblers, accessible toilets and walking with companion animals
- Review Council's transport system
- Ensure accessibility through co-design with older residents of town centre upgrades and mobility pathways.

Discussion

- Council can advocate for upgraded accessible stations and have some success in this space: Petersham and Stanmore. Dulwich Hill subject to major overhaul due to Sydney Metro design and Precinct plan.
- Can review accessible parking and build on this.

- That the free pick up and drop off on demand is very expensive and overlaps with half priced taxi vouchers provided by the State Government for people with a disability and the extensive public transport network in the LGA.
- There should be a 40 km Limit on major roads where there are shops and pedestrians – e.g. Canterbury Road.
- Extend the use of Council buses for community groups instead of members paying very expensive fees from Community Transport providers funded under My Aged Care for a service going from their home to the group?
- Lewisham Railway Station
 - Lack of facilities such Ramps, Escalators, Lifts, as the total number of steps up and down amount to some 51 steps. This is not only an inconvenience for older people but also for persons with disability, persons who require special needs and those who carry items such as prams heavy bags etc.,
 - This has an underpass which some older people may consider this as an inconvenient situation from security point of view, as at times, especially

- Free Council buses – be good to expand
- Asking older people to move away from using their own vehicles and public transport is fraught
- State Govt approved 40km in high pedestrian area already , just need to implement
- Crossing points should have good walking infrastructure: pedestrian islands, adjusting time of lights etc.

INNER WEST

at night when there is no one there.

- Furthermore, when it rains heavily, the underpass floods
- Extend accessible parking for older people, not just those with proof of a disability
- Changes to accessible parking would likely involve changes to regulatory forces.

3. Housing employment and financial security

Key themes and discussion from Council	Seniors Working Group Comments	Councillor Response
<p><i>Key actions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for a range of fundamental needs and promote financial literacy • Advocate for accessible and affordable housing for older people • Promote employment and business opportunities. <p><i>Discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty and older women and homelessness • Involved in submissions: Social Housing supply; Boarding House Sector Reform as under threat, Drug and Alcohol. 	<p>Need to look at financial literacy of seniors and deliver as a starting point information session that also target retirees. Using independent service providers such as Services NSW, Services Australia and more. Scoping needed.</p>	

4. Safety

Key themes and discussion from Council	Seniors Working Group Comments	Councillor Response
<p><i>Key action</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore use of community venues in times of crisis or emergency situations • Collaborate with partners to reduce and prevent family violence and elder abuse. <p><i>Discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear footpaths, balanced with green, looking at hot spots • Council Community Wellbeing staff involved in Precinct meetings with NSW Police. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local needs analysis • Consider adding Security to Safety. Safety should reference security and vice a versa. Older people should feel secure at home as well as in public • Improved Street lighting - line of sight. 	

5. Learning and sharing knowledge

Key themes and discussion from Council	Seniors Working Group Comments	Councillor Response

<p><i>Key actions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the visibility of healthy ageing • Support the Inner West Dementia Alliance • Promote ways to connect to volunteering opportunities. <p><i>Discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Community Wellbeing staff are mapping key roles used at some key services and providing training. Community groups need relief and support, knowledge exchange. Carers - opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteering important, how to access opportunities needs to be communicated • Find a way to connect volunteers • Timeframe for training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belonging to community builds social capital • Some opportunities in Council with verge gardening, bush care.
--	---	--

6. Health and diversity

Key themes and discussion from Council	Seniors Working Group Comments	Councillor Response
<p><i>Key action</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate on implementing the Aboriginal Health Strategic Plan of Sydney Local Health District • Provide cultural awareness training for staff • Support the sustainability of groups of seniors from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds • Improve capacity to engage in culturally sensitive ways with our unique and diverse community. <p><i>Discussion</i></p> <p>Sydney Local Health District in an ideal place to pilot initiatives, diversity of the population.</p> <p>The Gambling Harm Minimisation is an example of this. Work with the Portuguese community.</p> <p>Training staff in cultural awareness and more to do.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationship between health and happiness. 	