

**Minutes of Social Inclusion Strategic Reference Group
held at Ashfield Civic Centre on 12 April 2017**

The meeting commenced at 6:30pm

Members:

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| Chairperson: Geraldine Andrews | |
| Cec Busby | Kate Wake |
| Sara Graham | Marc Rerceretnam |
| Ernest Yung | Lisa Smajlov |
| Chris Maclean | |

Other Attendees:

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| Gabrielle Rennard | Inner West Council | Acting Group Manager, Community Services and Culture |
| Lynne George | Inner West Council | Manager, Community Development |
| Vera-Ann Hannaford | LRAC | Local Representation Advisory Committee |

Apologies:

Members: Hawanatu Bangura, Sandra Triulzi, Curtis Dickson, Paul Hurst, Annette Cairnduff, Erica Aronsten, Angharad Candlin, Emily Dash, Iris Loudon

Note: Joel Penson was not present due to having resigned as a member from the Strategic Reference Group due to changing work situation and moving from the Inner West area.

A quorum was not present so the meeting agenda did not proceed.

Gabrielle Rennard provided a demographic overview of the Inner West Local Government out of interest to those in attendance. The group provided the following feedback for consideration of Inner West Council and with regard to the Inner West Community Strategic Plan:-

- Suggest more demographic and statistical data will assist SRG's and the community to make more informed decisions. (eg % of people living alone, LGBTQI, Gender breakdown, Homeless)
The following link is provided as the community have access to a diverse and detailed data on Council's website
<http://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/community/who-we-are/community-profile>
- Members present noted how important it is for Council to consider ways to actively engage with people on the 'fringes' or who are unable to voice their opinion.
It was suggested that apart from the usual engagement mechanisms (eg on-line, newsletters, forums etc) that active engagement could occur through for example community centres; at shopping centres; through libraries; community bus and where the community is undertaking recreational activities.
- "That the Inner West be a liveable place" and a "Place of Belonging"

- That Council identify the inner west place and community – including what the area is and who we are, in order to assist the community identify with place.
- That it is important to retain a diverse population
- That the inner west has a high level of social capital and that Council should capitalise on this. It was felt important that that Council become the voice of community and provide reasons for the community to trust in government.
- That the inner west become a community with a voice, a diverse community of people who relate to each other and belong to place.
- Council consider establishing a magic yellow bus for older people and provide opportunities for cross generational initiatives including opportunities to connect children who may not have grandparents with local seniors.
- It was noted that the Inner West Council communication and publications (notably social media) does not reflect the diversity of the community, the images present a mono-Anglo culture.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 14 June 2017 @ 6:30pm