

## Community Inclusion and Wellbeing Reference Group

Date	Friday 26 June 2020	Time	9:30am – 11:00
Venue	Zoom	Note-taker	Hannah Earley
Present	Hannah Earley, Felicity Carter, Judy Hollingworth, Cr Katheryn Smith, Bree Katsamangos, David Isbel, Elizabeth Green, & Jane Stevenson.		
Apologies	Mave Richardson, Kylie Atkinson, Karen Fuller, Cr Dave Keegan, Paul De Szell, Anna Burley & Mark Norris John Price		
Not present			

### Meeting items

Item	Key points/actions
1	<b>Acknowledgement of Country</b> Cr Katheryn Smith
2	<b>Declaration of any conflicts of interests</b> Nil
3	<b>Introductions</b> Brief introductions by all attendees
4	<b>Action items update</b> The group reviewed progress on action items from their previous meeting.
5	<b>General discussion</b> The group had general discussion on relevant issues.
6	<b>Meeting review and Close</b>

### Next meeting

Date	28 August 2020	Time	9:30am – 11:00am
Venue	Via Zoom (unless otherwise specified)		

## Community Inclusion and Wellbeing Reference Group

### Action items update

Item No	Description	Date Raised	Action for	Due Date/ Timeframe	Status Update as at 27/09/19	
1	Consult Aboriginal community on Aboriginal representation on the reference group.	29/3/19	HE	27/8/19		Ongoing
2	Members were interested in viewing the minutes from the Bushfire Health and Wellbeing committee and the opportunity to offer a supporting partnership	28/02/20	PDS			Paul to circulate minutes when available
3	Walk around community for disability	28/02/20	HE	Deferred	→	Resume planning walk when COVID-19 laws allow
4	Invite new caretaker CEO of community transport to attend next meeting	28/02/20	HE			Hannah Earley to invite new CEO to attend next meeting
5	Moree as example of transport – RMS Public transport model	28/02/20	PDS			Completed. Link sent out with meeting Agenda
6	MLAK keys					Completed – Fees now adjusted
7	Red Cross Webinar	24/04/20	PDS			Send recording out to members
8	Vacant Generalist position MCC and DCJ funding	24/04/20	PDS			keep members updated with position and to allow members interested in providing supporting reports to council for new budget

Key:

	Not yet scheduled for commencement		Commenced and on schedule		Commenced and not on schedule or overdue		Complete	→	Deferred	W	Withdrawn
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## Community Inclusion and Wellbeing Reference Group

### Action items update

1. **Aboriginal Representation** - Ongoing – Discussion at last meeting was more around engaging those nominated people to want to be involved in the network. It was discussed that they would participate as guests leading up to the 2020 elections, however these have now been postponed. We will continue with inviting guests to meetings to allow them to gain a better understanding of the reference group and its purpose as the needs arise. It was also agreed that guest could be invited to attend for other specific areas and have different representation as issues arise.
2. **Bushfire Health and Wellbeing Committee** – There should have been a meeting held since the last CI&WRG meetings. Hannah to follow up with Paul. The new MidCoast Council Bushfire Committee is a separate network that's just been established. Bree advised she is a member the new the group will be following up with Bushfire Health and wellbeing committee which also focuses on inclusion and wellbeing. It will be interesting to see how the collaboration will happen between the two groups
3. **Community walk** – Currently on hold. As soon as opportunity arises with COVID-19 restrictions a date will be organised.
4. **Invitation for CEO community transport to attend** - All members agreed to get this moving even if we are meeting via Zoom
5. **Example of Moree Transport** – Paul DeSzell has sent out link for transport model. Will discuss further with Paul DeSzell at next meeting. Raised transport is an ongoing issue with those disadvantaged.
6. **MLAK keys** – fees and charges are scheduled to be approved by council to have consistent fees.

### General business

#### Priority issues –

Discussion around the priority issues for the reference Group and how the reference group assists council in those areas. How does the reference group determine and identify those issues beyond the groups knowledge.

There are many sectors we can look at to be clear as to what our tasks actually are to achieve outcomes. The network is a well-connected group that all have connections out in the community that can feed back in a useful way to the reference group.

Suggested that the reference group should be looking at Councils draft development and operational plan before its adopted to provide valuable input. The reference group agreed to

look at all the strategies in the document to talk further at next meeting and how we can assist.

Submissions close next Monday and needs to be implemented by 1<sup>st</sup> July. So even if the reference group don't get to much of a say before it is adopted, at least we can foresee where council is headed in the next 12 months.

Other things suggested to look at is access in the liveable communities, physical access and moving around the community safely.

Felicity – New head of Community Housing in Port Macquarie, two elements Department of Housing and Community housing. They could come talk to us about the broader strategies in housing. Felicity to Liaise with Hannah to invite head of Dep of Housing to attend future meeting.

Bree mentioned that Kevin Randle, (CPO, department of communities and Justice) are working on trying to pull together a housing working group. Kevin also has a good understanding of housing.

### **Update from services in light of COVID-19 –**

David (Valley Industries) - Valley Industries, seems to be back to normal and have been very resilient. Commercial laundry has been very busy.

Judy (Manning Valley Push 4 Palliative) – Palliative care specialist in the Manning Valley. Working with manning valley push for palliative and working together on a way to fund a point 5 clinical nurse consultative position so there's a palliative care clinic which will happened in the hospital. Have been advocating for a palliative specialist for GP's to ask for advice and to support palliative care nurses in the community and hospital.

Bree (Mission Australia) – We have a lot of vulnerability in children in the transitioning to school space that aren't meeting their milestones. Being able to intervene in that school transitioning space is a powerful thing to do. Have been working with Mission and midcoast for kids collective impact group. Been developing over the past few years is the connected beginnings program which is a partnership between department of education – Taree primary school and the department of health – Biripi AMCA.

The program engages with vulnerable families with a specific focus on Aboriginal Families in playgroup and early intervention activities. The children are able to also be assessed prior to starting school and intervention to bridge those gaps. Currently in pilot project stages but will extend to other primary schools for all children in the areas. Forming advocacy working group through Midcoast for Kids which involves a research project of early school screening in the area and forming actions.

In addition, the Linking schools and early years' framework has similar outcomes and objectives. The framework is being delivered at Coolongalook and Nabiac which is a trauma informed training framework. If successful, looking at extending to Taree and Gloucester.

Liz (dementia Australia) – still operating remotely, over the phone or using technology. A number of clients or carers have embraced zoom meetings and zoom groups. New programs coming out on 1<sup>st</sup> July around dementia available to anyone across Australia. The programs are advertised on the dementia Australia website [www.dementia.org.au](http://www.dementia.org.au)

Felicity (Forster neighbourhood centre) - Just signed new funding agreement with DCJ which has a whole new approach focus which makes it a lot easier to deliver tailored services to the

community. One of which is the unfunded tutoring program through Tobwabba which DCJ has now funded and other community engagement programs.

Jane (Department of Education) – Students and staff returning to school which is positive. Being mindful of students that are still transitioning to high school and also senior students. As a school councillor, things have surprisingly been calm.

Hannah (MidCoast Council) – currently recruiting for another Aboriginal Community Strengthening Officer. Aboriginal designated position. The successful candidate will work alongside Hannah under DCJ TEI outcomes and also Council directives. We are also recruiting another Community Strengthening Officer, however this position will be fully council funded and won't have any DJC outcomes affiliated with the position. Engagement with the Aboriginal community has been difficult with Coronavirus restrictions.

### **Task for next meeting –**

- Presentation on DPOP about what council is doing for the next 12 months.
- Enquire with HR if CI&WRG can have input and understand inclusion policy with council for employment. Even if it's just understanding the Inclusion process with employment and recruitment
- Looking at an Action plan/priorities for next 12 months
- Look at draft plan before next meeting – to review next meeting
- Look at speakers from different areas to present on items or topics with a mutual interest (such as Transport & housing)
- Align speakers with what we add to action plan to progress items effectively

### **Meeting dates –**

Future meeting dates discussed to ensure most suitable days to ensure members could attend. Hannah to send out a doodle poll to pick best availability.

Zoom meeting for August and check in again before October meeting.

### **Additional meeting –**

Worthwhile having an extra and in person meeting. Could have a late meeting end of November.

### **Meeting review and Close**