

Social Inclusion Advisory Committee Meeting Record 10 December 2020



Location:	Zoom Meeting
Date:	10 December 2020
Time	Started at: 3.12pm Closed at: 3.43pm
Chair	Kerrie Forrest, Section Manager Community Planning and Services
File Ref	F2019/00090

Present:

Jackie Klarkowski, Deb Tipper

Council Staff present:

Kerrie Forrest – Section Manager Community Planning and Services, Belinda McRobie – Section Manager Community and Cultural Development, Celia Pennycook – Social Planner Community Planning and Funding, Zoie Magann – Advisory Group Support Officer

Item 1 Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country and Apologies

Apologies received: Joshua Maxwell, Glitta Supernova, Michael Schell, Julie Vaughan – Director Connected Communities, Glenn Cannard – Unit Manager Community Partnerships

The Chairperson welcomed the Advisory Group and completed an Acknowledgement of Country.

Item 2 Disclosure of Interest

No disclosures were received.

Item 3 Confirmation of Previous Meeting Record

The Advisory Group confirmed the Meeting Record from 14 October 2020.

The Advisory Group reviewed the Action Log.

Item 4 Update on Social Inclusion Charter

Kerrie Forrest (Section Manager Community Planning and Services) provided an update on the draft Social Inclusion Charter, which was discussed at the last meeting.

The following key points were noted:

- Staff incorporated the feedback provided at the last meeting and a revised draft was recirculated to Advisory Group members for review.
- Summary of changes made to document:
 - More information included about what social inclusion is to set tone and highlight importance.
 - Expanded on social barriers (e.g. age, geographical location, language).
 - Removed stats about disadvantage and added explicit text.
 - Considered indicators for monitoring data – set targets weren't included but comment added that success would be measured against the Charter strategies. Noted that each business unit will be asked to comment on how they've addressed the Charter strategies annually and this will be reported to Council.
 - Explanation of social and economic benefits of social inclusion has been added to help highlight importance.
- Present members advised they are happy with additions and feel Charter is much improved.
- Noted that staff also liaised with other Councils for examples of Charter and consultation continues to be undertaken.
- Acknowledged it is difficult to enforce this type of Charter, but hope that annual reporting from business units will help track success.
- Further feedback was provided from members as below:
 - Suggest amending wording to address that people don't always 'identify' with particular group/label but may still experience disadvantage/adverse effects from others.
 - Minor language suggestions to improve tone (e.g. residents not customers).
 - More focus on advocacy and Council's role in this area.
 - Consider attaching report template to Charter as appendix to help implement and track change.

Action: Staff to update Charter and recirculate to members for final advice prior to placing document on public exhibition.

Item 5 Update on Social Task Force

Belinda McRobie (Section Manager Community and Cultural Development) noted there haven't been any meetings of the Task Force since the meeting held 14 October 2020 so no further updates are available.

Item 6 General Business and Close

- a) It was acknowledged that future is uncertain given Council's financial situation. Members would like to consider future and priorities at next meeting given changing landscape.
- b) Charity services continue to experience increasing demand as domestic violence and unemployment rates rise significantly in the region.
- c) Concerns about future of community grants given current financial situation. Members noted grants reductions have serious impact on community and groups in need. Staff advised grants situation will be revisited in February 2021.
- d) Members thanked staff for their efforts and acknowledged the challenges currently being faced.

The meeting closed at 3.43pm

Next Meeting: **March 2021 (TBC)**
 3pm – 5pm
 Location TBC