

Minutes



Social Inclusion Advisory Committee

Date: 16 December 2021

Time: 10.06am – 11.45am

Location: Microsoft Teams

Chairperson: Glenn Cannard, Unit Manager Community and Culture

Coordinator: Glenn Cannard, Unit Manager Community and Culture

Attendance

Members:

Mellita Bate

Cathie Buckley

Jackie Klarkowski

Michael Schell

Glitta Supernova

Deb Tipper

Status:

Present

Present

Apology

Present

Apology

Present

Staff:

Glenn Cannard, Unit Manager Community and Culture

Belinda McRobie, Section Manager Community Development

Paul Foote, Senior Corporate Planner

Zoie Magann, Meeting Support Officer

Present

Present

Present

Present

1 Introduction

10.06am

The chairperson welcomed the group and completed an Acknowledgement of Country.

Apologies received were noted.

The chairperson called for any disclosures of interest. No disclosures were received.

Glenn Cannard (Unit Manager Community and Culture) advised Julie Vaughan (former Director Community and Recreation Services) is no longer with Council as of Friday 26 November 2021. Brian Bell is now Director Community and Recreation Services (Acting), while the recruitment process is undertaken.

2 Previous business

10.09am

The group confirmed the minutes from the previous meeting as noted below, which were distributed to members via email and uploaded to Council's website:

- [Social Inclusion Advisory Committee meeting held 16 September 2021](#)

The action log was reviewed with updates recorded (see page 5).

3 Quick recap on projects

10.33am

Item deferred to follow Item 4.

Belinda McRobie (Section Manager Community Development) provided an overview of the Quality of Life Survey, including the following key points:

- Longitudinal survey to gather data about quality of life of locals. First started in 2007 and was committed to by both former Councils, with a sample size of 1,500.
- Survey was completed again 2012 and hasn't been done since (was planned for 2019 but couldn't proceed due to budget and timeframe restrictions). Although Micromex did a mini version of survey in 2018 in preparation for the Community Strategic Plan.
- Noted Council currently has no Social Planners so although there is budget allocated to the survey, there aren't human resources to do the work.

Glenn Cannard provided an update on some other key projects:

- No further progress on the Experience Hub to note. Will revisit at next meeting.
- Draft Social Inclusion Charter was circulated internally and to the Status of Women Advisory Group for feedback. While there is no set budget for the Charter, there has been commitment from Council Unit Managers to agree to uphold Charter principles in their work programs.
- Draft Charter will be publicly exhibited early 2022. Members are welcome to share any further comments by year end and there will be further opportunity for feedback during exhibition.
- Members again noted challenge of one person Council to make decisions for entire region.
- Members thanked staff for their efforts, particularly with the Charter, despite there being no Social Planners or further resources to action change.
- Staff have also been working on an Indigenous Accord. The Accord will be a high-level document that provides underlying principles for Council's commitment to supporting our local Indigenous community. It is anticipated the draft Accord will be available for community consultation early in 2022.

4 Community Strategic Plan and other key documents discussion

10.10am

Item brought forward to follow Item 2.

Paul Foote (Senior Corporate Planner) provided an overview of the Community Strategic Plan (CSP) and related key documents, including the following key points:

- Current CSP was prepared in 2018 with input from a Reference Group:
<https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/council/forms-and-publications/community-strategic-plan>
- A full review of a CSP is due upon Council election (expected 2022) as per Office of Local Government requirements, but Council is doing an internal review now to ensure plans reflect current situation and needs.
- Revised CSP and related documents (Delivery Program 2022-25 and Operational Plan 2022-23) will go to Extraordinary Council Meeting on 20 December 2021 for public exhibition.
- Another Reference Group will be established to assist with the review and EOIs for group are expected to go out early 2022.
- Noted actions from the Disability Inclusion Action Plan have been included in the Delivery Program. It's important to have clear links between these documents and measurable actions.
- Member raised concern about accessibility of local footpaths – example of works that should be included in Delivery Program to enable social inclusion. Paul confirmed there are systems in place to capture data provided by the community to ensure such items are included in planning.
- Explained difference between Delivery Program and Operation Plan, and how they tie in with CSP.
- Members raised concern about Council being one person (the Administrator) who makes decisions for the region and queried the future of Councillors. Glenn noted this depends on outcomes of the Public Inquiry undertaken by State Government so we're unsure of timeframes.
- Paul encouraged members to engage with Council about the CSP as it should be a community informed document.

5 Update on Council resources and impacts for social inclusion

10.57am

Updates provided as part of previous items.

- Glenn noted Council is currently consulting about the Special Rate Variation and the outcome will greatly impact resources. Current state is based on rate variation approved by IPART for three years, which Council is seeking to extend. Info online here:
<https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/servicesandrates>
- Staff are going to work with the Status of Women Advisory Group to scope what is needed and relevant to develop a Gender Equity Strategy as per their meeting held 7 December 2021.

6 Round table discussion and group planning 11.05am

- Discussed relevance of the Quality of Life Survey to work of the group. General consensus is that data would be helpful, but members are aware of issues within community already and can continue to advocate for social inclusion separate to the Survey.
- Discussed role of Central Coast Community Council (CCCC), which is a not-for-profit advocacy organisation independent of Central Coast Council. Members are keen to consider how they can support collaboration across key community groups like CCCC. Noted there are many community groups doing similar work and receiving funding that Council can't access, so would be good to connect these groups and improve the service network for community members.

Action: Invite Regional Director Officer (Acting) from Central Coast Community Council to next meeting to workshop how to facilitate connections between community groups and improve services, with consideration of principles from the Social Inclusion Charter.

7 Strategic discussion about COVID and domains of wellness 11.32am

Item deferred to next meeting to allow greater discussion with members who were apologies.

- Members noted concerns about decisions made by NSW Government regarding COVID and the recent ease of restrictions, particularly concerning at risk members in community and associated accessibility issues.

8 General business 11.41am

No general business was discussed.

9 Close

Next meeting: March 2022
 10am – 12pm
 Location TBC

Meeting closed at 11.45pm

Minutes approved by the Coordinator/Chairperson on 17 January 2022.

Action log

Social Inclusion Advisory Committee



Action Number	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible Party	Action Update	Status
39	16/09/2021	Unit Manager Community and Culture to provide update on following at next meeting: Experience Hub, Social Inclusion Charter, Quality of Life Survey (also invite Strategic Planning rep).	Unit Manager Community and Culture	Update provided at 16 December 2021. Further update to be provided at first meeting in 2022.	Pending
41	16/09/2021	Group to have strategic discussion about Covid and provide advice on Council's approach with consideration of domains of wellness at next meeting.	Members	Deferred to first meeting in 2022.	Pending
42	16/09/2021	Round table and group planning to remain standing item on agendas.	Members		Ongoing
43	16/09/2021	Meeting Support Officer to circulate Community Strategic Plan and any other key documents to members for their review.	Meeting Support Officer	Update provided at 16 December 2021 meeting.	Complete
44	16/09/2021	Director Community and Recreation Services to provide further info on resources and what these impacts mean for social inclusion work at next meeting.	Director Community and Recreation Services	Update provided at 16 December 2021 meeting.	Complete
45	16/12/2021	Invite Regional Director Officer (Acting) from Central Coast Community Council to next meeting to workshop how to facilitate connections between community groups and improve services, with consideration of principles from the Social Inclusion Charter.	Unit Manager Community and Culture		Pending