

MINUTES

Seniors Interests Advisory Committee

MINUTES OF THE SENIORS INTERESTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON

MEETING DATE

WEDNESDAY, 6 JUNE 2007

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City of
Joondalup

CITY OF JOONDALUP

MINUTES OF THE SENIORS INTERESTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM 3, JOONDALUP CIVIC CENTRE, BOAS AVENUE, JOONDALUP ON WEDNESDAY, 6 JUNE 2007.

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members:

Cr Brian Corr	Presiding Person
Ms Margaret March	
Ms Joy Coleman	
Ms Valerie Corey	
Mr Kevan Rogerson	
Mr Peter Boam	
Ms Lynda Waterman	

Officers:

Ms Julie Eaton	Coordinator, Community Services	<i>absent 0936 to 0938 hrs</i>
Ms Bridget Heneghan	Projects Officer	
Mrs Jill Hewison	Administrative Secretary	
Mr Daniel Noriega	Community Development Officer	<i>from 0940 to 1000 hrs</i>

DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Presiding Person declared the meeting open at 0935 hrs.

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Richard Currie
Ms Maria Bunn
Ms Patricia Geary

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE SENIORS INTERESTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 4 APRIL 2007

MOVED Joy Coleman **SECONDED** Margaret March that the minutes of the meeting of the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee held on 4 April 2007 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (7/0)

In favour of the motion: Cr Corr, Ms L Waterman, Ms M March, Mr P Boam, Mr K Rogerson, Ms V Corey, Ms J Coleman

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

The Presiding Person mentioned a letter which was in the Press in recent weeks regarding the Platinum 55+ program wherein a participant in the program had taken the time to write and express praise and encouragement of the Program.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

IDENTIFICATION OF MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY SIT BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil.

PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

Nil.

Coordinator, Community Services left the Room at 0937 hrs and returned at 0938 hrs.

Community Development Officer entered the Room at 0940 hrs.

REPORTS**ITEM 1 DEVELOPMENT OF NEW ACCESS AND INCLUSION PLAN**

WARD: All

RESPONSIBLE Mr Clayton Higham
DIRECTOR: Planning and Community Development

PURPOSE

To provide the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee (SIAC) with a report on the development of the City's new Access and Inclusion Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report details the reasons the City is developing a new Access and Inclusion Plan and the timeline for the process to be undertaken.

It is recommended that the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee:

- 1 *NOTES the information provided in this report;*
- 2 *CONSIDERS how the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee can best contribute to the provision of “seniors specific” information in the development of the new Plan.*

BACKGROUND

Access and inclusion is about all members of the community having choices and opportunities to fully participate in the community as they determine. Public authorities have a responsibility to ensure that all public services, facilities, activities, events and information are available and accessible for everyone in the community.

The Disability Services Act (1993 amended 2004) requires that public authorities develop and implement a Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP). The aim of DAIPs is to guide and encourage public authorities to practice inclusion and to provide access to their services, premises, activities, events and facilities for people with disabilities. The legislative requirement and timeline lines up with the City's timeframe and plan to review the current Access and Inclusion Plan 2004 – 2008. This has commenced in order to meet the Disability Services Commission deadline that new DAIPs be lodged by 31 July 2007.

DETAILS

The intent when developing this new plan will be to promote a concept of universal inclusion, that includes people with disabilities, their families, carers and others impacted upon by disability, but that is not exclusively disability focused. The new plan will aim to be more encompassing in terms of inclusiveness and be relevant to, for example, people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds, parents with prams or people who as they age may require specific assistance. The new plan will be called an Access and Inclusion Plan (AIP), to reflect a broader concept of inclusion and in line with the City's current plan.

Under the legislation, when developing new AIPs, local government authorities must aim to achieve six desired outcomes. These outcomes provide a framework for translating the principles and objectives of the WA Disability Services Act into tangible and achievable results. These six outcomes are that people with disabilities:

- Have the same opportunities as other people to access the services of, and any events organised by, a public authority;
- Have the same opportunities as other people to access the buildings and other facilities of a public authority;
- Receive information from a public authority in a format that will enable them to access the information, as readily as other people are able to access it;
- Receive the same level and quality of service from the staff of a public authority;
- Have the same opportunities as other people to make complaints to a public authority;
- Have the same opportunities as other people to participate in any public consultation by a public authority.

Timeline for developing and implementing the new Access and Inclusion Plan (AIP):

Date	Action
31 July 2006	Current plans submitted to Disability Services Commission (DSC) in accordance with the requirement to do so annually
May – June 2007	Develop Draft Plan and liaise with DSC on development and progress of plan.
May – June 2007	<p>Consult widely with a wide range of stakeholders that could include:</p> <p><u>Community members - people impacted upon by disability and access and inclusion issues i.e. individuals with disabilities, their families / carers / significant others, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, support groups, older people;</u></p> <p>Service providers - government and non-government agencies i.e. local providers and peak government and non- government agencies;</p> <p>Officers from various City of Joondalup units i.e. Libraries, Leisure, Sport and Recreation, Culture and Arts, Customer Service, Marketing, Infrastructure, elected members etc;</p> <p>Advertise and promote through print media (Community Newspapers and the West Australian), posters in a range of venues i.e. all Libraries, Customer Service Centres, Leisure Centres, Community Transport, Community Facilities etc that the City is developing a new plan and invite input from “the community;”</p> <p>Focus groups to be considered to further facilitate consultation and community participation;</p> <p>Companion Card program to be considered for integration into Plan.</p> <p>The Companion Card is credit-card size with high-security features issued to people with a permanent significant disability, requiring attendant care support to assist them to participate in activities in the community. Cardholders undergo a rigorous eligibility process. The card has photographic identification and is presented at an affiliate venue or activity when booking or purchasing a ticket. Affiliated businesses and organisations issue the cardholder with a second ticket or admission for their companion at no charge.</p> <p>Provision of the admission ticket at no cost does not mean that affiliated businesses and organisations need to extend free membership to a person’s companion; rather it covers their admission to a particular activity or venue.</p>

17 July	Draft Plan to go to Council for endorsement
31 July 2007	Finalised new AIP which includes the six outcomes to be lodged with DSC
August 2007	Active implementation by the City of the Plan to commence across all directorates.
31 July annually	Progress report to be lodged with DSC, template provided in Resource Manual To be reported on publicly by public authorities i.e. published in Annual reports

Link to Strategic Plan:

The Access and Inclusion Plan is linked to the Strategic Plan through the following:

Community Wellbeing

Outcome:

The City of Joondalup provides social opportunities that meet community needs

Objective

To continue to provide services that meet changing needs of a diverse and growing community

Strategy 1.3.2:

Provide quality of life opportunities for all community members

Strategy 1.3.3:

Provide support, information and resources

City Development

Outcome:

The City of Joondalup recognises the changing demographic needs of the community

Objective 3.3

To continue to meet changing demographic needs

Strategy 3.3.2:

Integrate plans to support community and business development

Organisational Development

Outcome:

The City of Joondalup is an interactive community

Objective 4.3

To ensure the City responds to and communicates with the community

Strategy 4.3.1:

Provide effective and clear community consultation

Objective 4.3.2

Provide accessible community information

Legislation – Statutory Provisions:

The WA Disability Services Act (1993 amended 2004) requires state and local government authorities to develop and implement Disability or Access and Inclusion Plans. It is required that actions taken by the City are reported publicly on an annual basis.

Other relevant Acts are:

- Western Australian Equal Opportunity Act (1994);
- Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act (1992).

Risk Management considerations:

The Disability Services Act (1993 amended 2004) requires that public authorities develop and implement a Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP), which includes six identified outcomes.

Not adhering to relevant legislative requirements could present risks for the City resulting from action by Disability Services Commission and other authorities, as well as from community members who may be disadvantaged by not being included in opportunities to access the City's services, activities, events, programs and information.

Financial/Budget Implications:

There is \$1650.00 allocated in the 2006/07 budget for advertising for community consultation for the Access and Inclusion Plan.

Policy implications:

Not Applicable

Regional Significance:

The Plan is underpinned by state and commonwealth legislation and whilst there are unique opportunities to develop a new plan that promotes the concept of access and inclusion within the City of Joondalup, any new plan will contain the six legislatively required outcomes which will be developed and implemented across the region and the state.

Sustainability implications:

Not applicable

Consultation:

Extensive consultation will take place throughout the process of developing the new Access and Inclusion Plan.

COMMENT

The development of a new Access and Inclusion Plan provides an opportunity to deliver and implement a contemporary Plan that reflects and acknowledges current universal disability, access and inclusion issues and concepts, relevant for the diverse community that makes up the City of Joondalup.

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority.

Community Development Officer gave an overview of the report. Discussion followed.

MOVED Ms Margaret March SECONDED Ms Joy Coleman that the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee:

- 1 NOTES the information provided in this report;**
- 2 CONSIDERS how the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee can best contribute to the provision of “seniors specific” information in the development of the new Access and Inclusion Plan.**

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (7/0)

In favour of the motion: Cr Corr, Ms L Waterman, Ms M March, Mr P Boam, Mr K Rogerson, Ms V Corey, Ms J Coleman

Community Development Officer left the Room at 1000hrs.

ITEM 2 DEPRESSION AND AGEING: BEYOND MATURITY BLUES PROGRAM

WARD: All

RESPONSIBLE Mr Clayton Higham
DIRECTOR: Planning and Community Development

PURPOSE

To inform the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee (SIAC) about the issue of depression and ageing, and the recent launch of the “beyond maturity blues” program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report focuses on the issue of depression and ageing, specifically informing the SIAC of current information and initiatives being implemented to raise awareness of the issue.

It is recommended that the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee:

- 1 *NOTES the information provided in this report;*
- 2 *CONSIDERS the issue of ageing, depression, mental health and wellbeing within the context of the review of the current Seniors Plan and an ageing population.*

BACKGROUND

The important issue of depression and ageing has been well researched and documented over the years in this state, country and worldwide. On a state level, the Office of Seniors Interest and Volunteering (OSIV) has undertaken research and produced various publications. Australia-wide, a range of government and non-government research and initiatives, including Beyondblue: the national depression initiative, have documented ageing and mental health issues. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has also extensively researched and produced publications. As mental health issues in general become more commonly raised, discussed, understood and gradually less stigmatised, so does the issue of ageing and depression and the opportunities to raise awareness in the local community.

DETAILS

Approximately one million adults in Australia live with depression each year. Estimates are that one in five or 20% of the population will experience depression during their life. The figure is believed to be higher for people living in aged care facilities; 30% of residents in low care and 51% of residents in high care. Depression is one of the most common mental health issues for older people.

Growing older or age itself is not a risk factor for depression. Factors that may impact upon an older person and create the risk of developing depression may include:

- Stressful life events such as loss and grief, retirement, employment, financial issues, status, changes in living arrangements;
- Deteriorating health, chronic medical conditions, side effects of some medications;
- Loss of independence and mobility for self or significant other/partner and caring responsibilities;
- Isolation which could be caused by loss or change of family, social, friendship relationships and networks;
- Previous history or predisposition to depression for self or others.

Beyondblue is a national, independent, not-for-profit, bipartisan, federal and state initiative that works to address issues associated with depression, anxiety and related substance-use disorders in Australia, and aims to:

- Raise community awareness about depression;
- Reduce stigma associated with the illness.

The Council of the Ageing (WA) [COTA (WA)] in partnership with Beyondblue, recently launched the “beyond maturity blues” Peer Education program in Western Australia. After being developed, piloted and evaluated by the Council on the Ageing (SA) in partnership with Beyondblue, “beyond maturity blues” Peer Education program is now being rolled out nationally through COTAs in each state.

The key messages that this program aims to deliver are that:

- Depression is a health problem, not a weakness;
- Depression is a treatable condition;
- Depression is not a usual or normal part of ageing;
- Information and support is available.

Research indicates that many older people are less likely to be well informed about depression, less likely to consider it as a health issue or disability, less likely to seek treatment than other age groups and value peer education.

Link to Strategic Plan:

This report is linked through the Seniors Plan to the City’s Strategic Plan –

Community Wellbeing

Outcome:

The City of Joondalup is recognised globally as a community that values and facilitates Lifelong Learning

Objective 1.1:

To develop, provide and promote a diverse range of lifelong learning opportunities

Strategy 1.1.3:

Support whole-of-life learning and creation of knowledge opportunities

Outcome:

The City of Joondalup provides social opportunities that meet community needs

Objective 1.3:

To continue to provide services that meet changing needs of a diverse and growing community

Strategy1.3.2:

Provide quality-of-life opportunities for all community members

Strategy 1.3.3:

Provide support, information and resources

Legislation – Statutory Provisions:

Not Applicable

Risk Management considerations:

Not Applicable

Financial/Budget Implications:

Not Applicable

Policy implications:

Not Applicable

Regional Significance:

The issue of depression and ageing knows no boundaries and will impact upon the population of all regions throughout the nation.

Sustainability implications:

Not Applicable

Consultation:

Not Applicable

COMMENT

An ageing population will ensure that the issue of depression and ageing continues to be “on the agenda”. Being informed of the issue as well as contemporary research

and programs is crucial for all local, state and federal authorities as they develop future strategic plans.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Depression is not a normal part of Ageing
Attachment 2 Staying Mentally Healthy

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

Coordinator Community Services gave an overview of the Report.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee:

- 1 NOTES the information provided in this report;
- 2 CONSIDERS the issue of ageing, depression, mental health and wellbeing within the context of the review of the current Seniors Plan and an ageing population.

MOVED Ms Lynda Waterman SECONDED Ms Margaret March that the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee:

- 1 NOTES the information provided in this report;**
- 2 CONSIDERS the issue of ageing, depression, mental health and wellbeing within the context of the review of the current Seniors Plan and an ageing population;**
- 3 LOOKS at ways of finding socially isolated seniors, making them aware of the seniors' events and assisting with getting those seniors involved.**

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (7/0)

In favour of the motion: Cr Corr, Ms L Waterman, Ms M March, Mr P Boam, Mr K Rogerson, Ms V Corey, Ms J Coleman

ITEM 3 ELDER ABUSE - OLDER PEOPLE'S RIGHTS

WARD: All

RESPONSIBLE Mr Clayton Higham

DIRECTOR: Planning and Community Development

PURPOSE

To provide the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee (SIAC) with information about Elder Abuse, Older People's Rights and the proposed Rights Centre for Older People.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the SIAC with up-to-date information on Elder Abuse, Older People's Rights and the progress of the proposed Rights Centre for Older People.

It is recommended that the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee:

- 1 *NOTES the information provided in this report;*
- 2 *CONSIDERS how the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee can best integrate Elder Abuse Protocols within the review of the current Seniors Plan and the development of the new plan.*

BACKGROUND

The Council of the Ageing (WA) commenced the development of Elder abuse protocols in 1997. Since that time the issue has gained momentum, with community awareness continuing to grow. In recent years, the Alliance for the Prevention of Elder Abuse WA (APEA: WA) was formed. The APEA: WA is facilitated through the Department of Health. Membership comprises heads of State Government Departments including the Department of Health, Disability Services Commission, Legal Aid WA, Office for Seniors Interests and Volunteering, WA Police and The Public Advocate.

In 2006 APEA: WA developed and published Elder Abuse Protocol: Guidelines in Action. The establishment of a Rights Centre for Older People is the next stage of the process. The Western Australian government recently announced that it would establish a Rights Centre for Older People. The tender process for organisations to submit proposals to develop this service closed at the end of November 2006. The new service will target disadvantaged people aged over sixty years who are experiencing elder abuse.

DETAILS

Elder abuse is a human rights issue, embedded in a belief of the dignity and rights of all people of all ages, nationalities, cultures, gender, religion, sexuality or abilities. In Australia, it is commonly accepted that all people have rights that include an adequate standard of living, access to health and safety, to freely express

themselves, to live without threat, harassment or humiliation as they so determine. Any abuse of our rights is a social justice issue.

Elder abuse is widely accepted as being any act which causes harm to an older person and occurs within an informal relationship of trust, such as family or friends. Elder abuse can include:

- Material or financial abuse;
- Psychological abuse;
- Physical abuse;
- Sexual abuse;
- Social abuse;
- Neglect.

Similar to family and domestic violence, it is believed that elder abuse is significantly underreported. Difficulty in gaining information about the extent of elder abuse therefore impacts on the ability of authorities to estimate how many people experience the abuse. Various Australian studies have determined that between 1% to 5% of the seniors population have experienced abuse. Office of Seniors Interests and Volunteering (OSIV) research shows that three out of five people who abuse older people are their adult children or their partner. The research also shows that the most common form of abuse is financial abuse and that people aged over 75 years are the most vulnerable.

The City has responded to elder abuse since recognising the importance of including the issue in its Community and Health Services Plan within the then Aged and Disability Services Business Plan. In 1999 the City formed a Network with service providers in the region to address the issue of elder abuse. The Prevention of Elder Abuse Network remains with the City and the Network meets quarterly. It provides a forum that enables service providers opportunities to share knowledge, information and to raise awareness of elder abuse.

In order to progress the growing awareness and acceptance of this important issue, on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 15 June 2007, the Minister for Seniors will announce the agency that successfully tendered to develop and provide the new Rights Centre for Older People service.

Link to Strategic Plan:

This report is linked through the Seniors Plan to the City's Strategic Plan –

Community Wellbeing

Outcome:

The City of Joondalup is recognised globally as a community that values and facilitates Lifelong Learning

Objective 1.1:

To develop, provide and promote a diverse range of lifelong learning opportunities

Strategy 1.1.3:

Support whole-of-life learning and creation of knowledge opportunities

Outcome:

The City of Joondalup provides social opportunities that meet community needs

Objective 1.3:

To continue to provide services that meet changing needs of a diverse and growing community

Strategy 1.3.2:

Provide quality-of-life opportunities for all community members

Strategy 1.3.3:

Provide support, information and resources

Legislation – Statutory Provisions:

Not Applicable

Risk Management considerations:

Not Applicable

Financial/Budget Implications:

Not Applicable

Policy implications:

Not Applicable

Regional Significance:

Elder abuse impacts on all communities regardless of varying demographics. The City's long involvement with elder abuse places it in a unique position regionally.

Sustainability implications:

Not Applicable

Consultation:

Not Applicable

COMMENT

Elder abuse remains an important societal issue in a local, state, national and global context. The City is well placed to continue its unique involvement through the Prevention of Elder Abuse Network and the opportunity to embed Elder Abuse Protocols within the new Seniors Plan, which will be developed from the review of the current plan. Additionally, because of sound established networks with existing elder abuse services and OSIV, the City is strategically placed to form an immediate working partnership with the new Rights Centre for Older People when that service is established. This can only be of benefit for community members of the City of Joondalup.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Older People's Rights Pamphlet

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

Coordinator, Community Services gave an overview of the report.

MOVED Kevan Rogerson SECONDED Peter Boam that the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee:

- 1 NOTES the information provided in this report;**
- 2 CONSIDERS how the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee can best integrate Elder Abuse Protocols within the review of the current Seniors Plan and the development of the new plan.**

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (7/0)

In favour of the motion: Cr Corr, Ms L Waterman, Ms M March, Mr P Boam, Mr K Rogerson, Ms V Corey, Ms J Coleman

ITEM 4 PRESENTATION – LIVING LONGER LIVING STRONGER PROGRAM

WARD: All

RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR: Mr Clayton Higham
Planning and Community Development

Claire Martin, Program Coordinator Craigie Leisure Centre will attend this Seniors Interests Advisory Committee meeting to provide members with information about the Living Longer Living Stronger Program.

Living Longer Living Stronger (LLLS) is a program which seeks to maximise opportunities for older people to engage in affordable, high quality, results oriented, strength training programs over the long term. The concept has been developed and tested in Victoria since 1999 and Western Australia since 2004. LLLS primarily uses the down times of health, fitness and leisure centres to provide a low cost intervention strategy aimed at the over fifties aged group.

Council on the Ageing (WA) Inc oversees the program in Western Australia. Organisations are able to obtain endorsement to deliver the LLLS program at their facilities.

LLLS is currently only delivered at one venue in the City of Joondalup, this is at Joondalup Rehabilitation Health and Exercise Clinic at ECU.

MOVED Valerie Corey SECONDED Margaret March that the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee DEFERS this report on Presentation – Living Longer Living Stronger Program until the next meeting of the Seniors Interests Advisory Committee.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (7/0)

In favour of the motion: Cr Corr, Ms L Waterman, Ms M March, Mr P Boam, Mr K Rogerson, Ms V Corey, Ms J Coleman

MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil.

REQUESTS FOR REPORTS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

- 1 A report giving an analysis of the ages of persons who have used the Platinum 50+ program to date
- 2 An update on the seniors event

CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Presiding Person declared the Meeting closed at 1055 hrs; the following committee members being present at that time:

Cr Brian Corr
Ms Margaret March
Ms Joy Coleman
Ms Valerie Corey
Mr Kevan Rogerson
Mr Peter Boam
Ms Lynda Waterman