

**NOTES OF THE
DISABILITY ADVISORY GROUP MEETING HELD AT CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL,
53 HEREFORD STREET, GROUND FLOOR, ON Tuesday 18 August 2015 at 10 am**

Present: Allison Nichols-Dunsmuir (Health in All Policies, CDHB), Simon Atkinson, Anna Mitchell, Gail Payne (Metropolitan Community Advisor, Disability Portfolio, CCC), Adele Wilkinson, Tracey Dorreen, Rachel Mullins (CCC Inclusive Communities)

Apologies: Doreen McCoard, Robert Watts

Facilitator: Gail Payne

Discussion from previous meeting Notes: Comment made about the height of signage, and also clarity of announcements due to noise and echo, for sight impaired people, at the Bus Interchange. Monitor for further feedback.

Pedestrian Crossing Safety: Discussion with the Council's Traffic Operations Manager, about safety at pedestrian crossings, for people with sight impairment, when there are free turns for cycles and vehicles. Also timing when crossing at lights if a person has a physical disability. Clarification was made between Council roles and NZ Transport Agency roles, and safety audits. Explanation of why some crossing sites are marked and others are not and how that decision is made re usage and best practice guidelines via NZTA. Discussion about hard to reach buttons at some crossings if in a chair; and the place of tactile paving pads for visually impaired people. Undertaking a walking audit of the city to detect steep paths, obstacle trees etc. The LTP has strong safety goals. There are regular reviews of bus-stop locations. Important to phone the call centre with issues because then each call can be logged and followed up. Vulnerable road users include cyclists and pedestrians - acknowledgment that people with disabilities have additional safety challenges.

Social Housing Units: Social Housing Liaison Advisor talked about LifeMark standards and practical daily activities for people with disabilities living in Council social housing. DAG members talked about drop benches, flashing smoke alarms, contrasting colours for visibility, wet area bathrooms, etc.

Updates

- Gail has been confirmed in the position of Community Development Advisor (disability and older person's portfolios) for the Council.
- Successful Forum about employment organised by Enabling Good Lives.
- MHERC training programme will be distributed to DAG networks. A reminder that the MHERC library is free and has a wide range of up to date resources.

- New public toilets have been raising some accessibility questions - CPH is following up.
- Access for All project is progressing well.
- Public transport remains a core issue for people with disability - frequency of services, location of bus stops etc.
- Concern was raised about recent media coverage relating to the disestablishment of the disability advisory positions at the Auckland Council.

Tracey Dorreen was thanked for her commitment, knowledge, and advisory role on the DAG for more than four years. This was Tracey's last meeting as she has other commitments.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 15 September 2015 at 10 am at Christchurch City Council, 53 Hereford Street