



MEETING: ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

DATE: 24 APRIL 2024

DEPARTMENT: Corporate & Community

OFFICER: Stephen Rufus, Director Corporate & Community

REPORT ITEM:	15.4.4
REPORT TITLE:	ESTABLISHMENT OF DISABILITY ACCESS AND INCLUSION REFERENCE GROUP

Timeframe	Immediate			
Budget Impact	Nil			
Risk Assessment	Primary Risk Type(s):		Reputation	
	Inherent Risk:	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating
		Low	Low	Low
	Controls:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Community EngagementAdoption by Council		
	Residual Risk:	Low	Low	Low
File Reference	2.38.4.1			

STRATEGIC REFERENCE:	
Theme Goal Strategy 1.1.1	Our Community Inclusivity & Diversity Leadership in the community is valued, encouraged & supported

RECOMMENDATION:
<p>That Council, having considered the report, agrees to establish a Disability Access and Inclusion Reference Group in accordance with the following structure:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Members have some level of experience in the field of Inclusion.The duration of tenure of members is 3 years initially, and 12 months thereafter.To be established as a 'Reference Group' and will sit under Port Pirie Regional Council. <p>The Director Corporate & Community and the Community Development Coordinator manage the development of the group, with the Mayor and the Council Members of the Wellbeing and Inclusion portfolio.</p>

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
<p>In December 2023 Council Members of the Wellbeing and Inclusion portfolio met with members of Corporate & Community to plan an Inclusion Workshop extending an invitation to interested stakeholders of the Community to attend.</p> <p>The Workshop was held on 26 March 2024 at the Function Centre with over 40 stakeholders attending. This workshop brought about some robust discussion on how community and council can work together and how we can plan for any future consultation around infrastructure and events within the Port Pirie Regional Council community.</p>

REPORT 15.4.4	Establishment Of Disability Access and Inclusion Reference Group (Cont'd)
----------------------	--

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: (Cont'd)

Attendees to the workshop were invited to submit an Expression of Interest to become part of the Reference Group, and we have received 11 submissions.

Mayor Stephens and Council Members of the Wellbeing and Inclusion portfolio met on 16 April to review the submissions and determined that each stakeholder would provide valuable assistance and be able to provide feedback and review on all matters of Inclusion.

This reference group will assist with Council's strategic plan in regard to inclusion and connection to services and bring a 'voice' to Council.

DISCUSSION

Council will be aware that the The Disability Access & Inclusion Plan (DAIP) is a legislated State Government requirement under the Disability Inclusion Act 2018 (SA) and is aligned with State Disability Inclusion Plan, managed by Inclusive SA.

The State Plan is set out between 2019 – 2023, however most local governments including Port Pirie Regional Council's plan is between 2020 – 2024. Despite this timing difference, Inclusive SA and Department of Human Services have advised that all local governments must renew their plans to align with the new state plan that is scheduled to be released early 2024 (will actually now be mid-late 2024 for release).

Council's DAIP currently sits under the department of Corporate and Community with some goals and actions aligned to Infrastructure and Development and Regulation.

The plan was updated in June 2023 and reviewed via a community forum in July 2023 which was co-facilitated by the disability awareness organisation, Purple Orange. This community forum was unfortunately low attended, however sparked some good starting points for improved engagement.

The main outcome from this forum included creating a Disability Reference Group so that Council can better consult with targeted community members to achieve better access and inclusion outcomes. This group will also be the main consultation point for renewing and reviewing Council's DAIP.

The Workshop held on 26 March 2024 resulted in 11 expressions of interest being submitted from the following persons:

Kim Blieschke
Stephen Donald
Jeanette Flynn
Chris McDougall
Karen Rohde
Meleeta VanLaarhoven

Alicia Denton
Greg Fidge
Tracy Lawson
Janita Park
Rachel Tubb

From reviewing the EOI's received by Mayor Stephens and Council Members of the Wellbeing and Inclusion portfolio at a meeting held on 16 April, it was determined that all interested persons expressing an EOI will be accepted to form the inaugural Reference Group, due to broad cross section of skills and knowledge.

It is advised that the members have been informed and arrangements will be finalized for the inaugural meeting of the Reference Group at which the rules of the group and action plan will be discussed.