



I hereby give notice that an ordinary meeting of the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel will be held on:

**Date:** Monday, 17 February 2014  
**Time:** 11.00am  
**Meeting Room:** Boardroom, Ground Floor  
**Venue:** Auckland Town Hall  
301-305 Queen Street  
Auckland

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## **Disability Strategic Advisory Panel**

### **OPEN AGENDA**

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#### **MEMBERSHIP**

<b>Chairperson</b>	Dr Huhana Hickey
<b>Deputy Chairperson</b>	Colleen Brown, MNZM, JP
<b>Members</b>	Sandra Budd David Hughes Tania Kingi Clive Lansink Don McKenzie, OBE Dr Terry O'Neill Ezekiel Robson Susan Sherrard
<b>Liaison Councillor</b>	Sharon Stewart, QSM

(Quorum 5 members)

**Mike Giddey**  
**Democracy Advisor**

**14 February 2014**

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## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Disability Strategic Advisory Panel (DSAP) was established by the Mayor in June 2011.

Its purpose is to provide strategic advice on pan-disability issues to the Mayor, governing body, local boards, Council Controlled Organisations (CCOs) and Council on:

- the interests and preferences of persons with disabilities in Auckland in relation to regional strategies, policies, plans, and bylaws of the Council;
- any other matters that the Panel considers to be of particular interest or concern to persons with disabilities in Auckland; and
- processes and mechanisms for engaging with persons with disabilities in Auckland.

The DSAP has up to 11 members who are appointed on the basis of their individual expertise and experience in strategic thinking, governance and communication skills, knowledge of disability and accessibility issues and connections with disability organisations and networks across Auckland.

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**1 Apologies**

At the close of the agenda no apologies had been received.

**2 Declaration of Interest**

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

**3 Confirmation of Minutes**

That the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel:

- a) confirm the ordinary minutes of its meeting held on Monday, 16 December 2013 as a true and correct record.

**4 Extraordinary Business**

Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“An item that is not on the agenda for a meeting may be dealt with at that meeting if-

- (a) The local authority by resolution so decides; and
- (b) The presiding member explains at the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public,-
  - (i) The reason why the item is not on the agenda; and
  - (ii) The reason why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.”

Section 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

“Where an item is not on the agenda for a meeting,-

- (a) That item may be discussed at that meeting if-
  - (i) That item is a minor matter relating to the general business of the local authority; and
  - (ii) the presiding member explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at the meeting; but
- (b) no resolution, decision or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer that item to a subsequent meeting of the local authority for further discussion.”



## Purpose of the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel

File No.: CP2014/02032

### Purpose

1. To consider the revised purpose of the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel.

### Executive Summary

1. At its meeting on 19 December 2013, Auckland Council's Governing Body provided direction on the role and functioning of Council's advisory panels. A copy of the resolution is attached (Attachment A).
2. In essence the revised purpose of the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel is to:
  - Provide strategic advice on issues of significance to persons with disabilities;
  - Advise on effective engagement by Council with persons with disabilities;
  - Provide advice to Local Boards about disability matters;
  - Contribute to Council submissions, but do not submit independently to external bodies, except as agreed with the Mayor.
3. The Disability Strategic Advisory Panel's role has changed in relation to submissions to external bodies. The Panel is required to have a strategic focus in terms of its advice to the council and this will affect the extent to which the Panel provides advice in relation to the council's strategies, policies, plans and bylaws. There is the opportunity for the Panel to be more selective and prioritise its work programme.
4. The changes to the Panel's purpose will be incorporated into revised Terms of Reference for the Panel. The revised Terms of Reference are currently being prepared and will be discussed with the Chair of the Panel.
5. The previous purpose of the Disability Strategic Advisory Group was:
  - a) identify and communicate to the Council, elected representatives and Council Controlled Organisations (CCOs) the interests and preferences of persons with disabilities in Auckland in relation to:
    - i. the content of the strategies, policies, plans, and bylaws; and
    - ii. any matter that the Group considers to be of particular interest or concern to persons with disabilities in Auckland; and
  - b) advise the Mayor, the governing body, local boards, CCOs and Council of processes and mechanisms for engaging with persons with disabilities in Auckland.

### Recommendation/s

That the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel:

- a) endorse the revised purpose of the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel.

Item 5

## Attachments

No.	Title	Page
A	Resolution of the Governing Body meeting 19 December 2013	9

## Signatories

Author	Kevin Wright - Manager: Transport Strategy – Lead Officer Support DSAP
Authoriser	Kevin Wright - Manager: Transport Strategy – Lead Officer Support DSAP

**Resolution of the Governing Body at its meeting on 19 December 2013**

**Proposals on the role and functioning of Council's "demographic" advisory panels**

Resolution number GB/2013/160

MOVED by Mayor LCM Brown, seconded by Cr CM Casey:

**That the Governing Body agree:**

- a) that the demographic advisory panels are considered and supported collectively as part of the Council structure.
- b) that the purpose of the panels is to provide strategic advice on issues of significance to their communities; and to advise on effective engagement by Council with those communities.
- c) that, subject to consultation with Local Boards, that the Terms of Reference of the panels includes advice to Local Boards; that Local Boards are given opportunities to access panel advice, if they wish.
- d) that the Terms of Reference include contribution to Council submissions, but panels do not submit independently to external bodies, except as agreed with the Mayor.
- e) that there is an annual work programme for each panel, integrated wherever possible, with other panels and signed-off by the Regional Strategy and Policy Committee.
- f) that, as resources allow, budget is available for panels, to support activities that clearly contribute to the agreed work programme.
- g) that panels do not access external resources for activities or events, except with the agreement of Council.
- h) that a coordinator position be established with appropriate seniority, to negotiate and broker the work programmes, coordinate monitoring and reporting of progress and oversee communications between panels, elected members, officers and communities.
- i) that, in principle, all panel members should receive the same fees and allowances, and these are set in accordance with the forthcoming Fees Framework.
- j) that the selection process for panels members (apart from the Youth Advisory Panel) is:
  - an open call for applications
  - a panel of about six, made up of community nominees, the Liaison Councillor and appropriate external agencies
  - assessment on a defined set of competencies
  - recommendations to the Mayor
  - appointment by the Mayor with endorsement by the Governing Body.
- k) that direct Council employees and CCO employees be ineligible for selection and Central Government candidates be assessed on case by case basis.
- l) that the term for panels (apart from the Youth Advisory Panel) be up to three years within the same term as the current Council and –
  - members are not “rolled over” but go through another selection/appointment process
  - panels are disestablished one month before Council elections and re-established in the first quarter of the following calendar year.
- m) that “community summits” (or other appropriate events) be held to give direction to panel work programmes; that these be integrated with Council’s programme, so that they enhance and inform and do not duplicate, other Council engagement and consultation activities.
- n) that the future of the legacy Pacific boards is considered after new panels are appointed and their relationship to Local Boards is clearer.
- o) agree that:

- i. competencies for advisory panel members include knowledge of the Treaty of Waitangi and Maori cultural values.
- ii. a minimum of one seat on the Seniors Advisory Panels is provided for a Maori representative with appropriate competencies.
- iii. the Independent Maori Statutory Board may recommend panel members to the Mayor and Governing Body.
- iv. a member of the IMSB be on the selection panel.

CARRIED

Item 5

Attachment A

## Fees and Selection Process

File No.: CP2014/02035

### Purpose

1. To consider the implications of the proposed revision of the schedule of fees and the proposed selection process for appointments to panels.

### Executive Summary

2. At its meeting on 19 December 2013, the Governing Body resolved to amend the Schedule of Fees for members of the various panels so that “in principle, all panel members should receive the same fees and allowances”. The intention is that a member of one panel should receive the same level of fee for attendance at a panel meeting as a member of another panel.
3. Work is progressing on a revised Schedule of Fees and is expected be presented to the Finance and Performance Committee on 13 March 2014. It is understood that there may not be sufficient budget to cover the situation where every panel meets every month. So the panels are encouraged to consider a frequency between 6 and 12 times a year. The idea is that the work programmes will determine how frequently panels need to meet.
4. Because of the strong track record of the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel and the transformation that still needs to take place in improving conditions for persons with disabilities in Auckland, the work programme is expected to be significant and will be reflected in the number of meetings that will be scheduled in 2014.
5. Also at its meeting on 19 December 2013, the Governing Body resolved that panels undergo a selection/appointment process and members are not automatically rolled over. In February 2014, the council commenced a selection process in relation to the Ethnic Peoples Panel, Pacific Peoples Panel and Seniors Panel. Information about that selection process is available at <http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/EN/AboutCouncil/representativesbodies/advisorypanels/Documents/ethnicpeoplespacificpeopleseniorsadvisorypanelsleaflet.pdf>
6. The selection process invites applications from people who meet identified criteria to apply. A selection panel comprising the Councillor for that particular advisory panel, a senior council officer and people providing community perspectives and expertise. The selection panel will make recommendations to the Mayor, which will then be presented for endorsement to the Governing Body.
7. In response to an enquiry whether the possibility of staging selection could be considered, it is understood that the same selection process will be applied across the panels. It is understood that the intention is to undertake a selection process in relation to the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel around July 2014.

### Recommendation/s

That the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel:

- a) receive the report on Fees and Selection Process.

### Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

### Signatories

Author	Kevin Wright - Manager: Transport Strategy – Lead Officer Support DSAP
Authoriser	Kevin Wright - Manager: Transport Strategy – Lead Officer Support DSAP

## Work Programme

File No.: CP2014/02043

### Purpose

1. To develop the annual work programme for the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel.

### Executive Summary

2. The Disability Strategic Advisory Panel is required to develop an annual work programme that aligns with the Panel's revised purpose and submit the work programme for approval by the Regional Strategy and Policy Committee.
3. The Governing Body has requested panels to hold "community summits", or other appropriate events, to give direction to a panel's work programme. Where possible, the Panel's work programme needs to be integrated with work programmes of other panels.
4. Some guidance to the work programme is set out in the attachment for the Panel's consideration (Attachment A). This will need to be developed to understand when the work is required and whether it will most be the most effective in terms of delivering on outcomes.
5. The previous work programme for the period July 2012 to June 2013 is attached for reference (Attachment B). This was developed using the DSAG's aspirations statements as a general guide for work programme focus areas. Each policy area was assigned a high, medium or low priority.

### Recommendation/s

That the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel:

- a) receive the outline of a proposed work programme.
- b) develop the proposed work programme further with a view to finalising at the next meeting of the Panel.

### Attachments

No.	Title	Page
A	Outline of draft DSAP Work Programme	15
B	DSAG Work Programme 2012-2013	17

### Signatories

Author	Kevin Wright - Manager: Transport Strategy – Lead Officer Support DSAP
Authoriser	Kevin Wright - Manager: Transport Strategy – Lead Officer Support DSAP



## Draft Work Programme DSAP February 2014 to February 2015

The following is guidance for a proposed work programme based on the revised purpose of DSAP.

The major components are:

1. Strategic advice on issues of significance to persons with disabilities
2. Advice on effective engagement by Council with persons with disabilities
3. Advice to Local Boards as required
4. Contribution to Council submissions

### 1. Strategic advice on issues of significance to persons with disabilities

This would include advice sought by the Council in relation to its strategy and policy programme and also the advice that DSAP needs to proactively provide to ensure the issues of its community are raised with the Council.

Examples of key pieces of work may include:

- Summits to focus on input to the Council's Long Term Plan and significant issues (such as the next Long Term Plan, Accessible Employment)
- Input to Council strategies and policies that are considered to be high priority:
  - Long Term Plan 2015-2025
  - Arts and Culture Strategic Action Plan
  - Family and Sexual Violence Strategic Action Plan
  - Community Facilities Policy
  - Trading in Public Places
  - Implementing the Children and Young People's Strategic Action Plan
  - Māori Responsiveness Portfolio
  - Public Open Space Policy and Programme
  - Smokefree Policy
  - Sport and Recreation Strategic Action Plan
  - Accessible Event Guidelines
  - Inclusive Engagement Guide
  -
- Input to Auckland Transport's proposed Code of Practice for new transport infrastructure
- Input to other Auckland Transport planning documents (e.g. Regional Land Transport Plan).

### 2. Advice on effective engagement by Council with persons with disabilities

DSAP has already input to the Accessible Information and Communication Guidelines. There is likely to be an ongoing role to monitor and advise on issues relating to the implementation of the Accessible Information and Communication Guidelines. DSAP would wish to input into the development of the Accessible Event Guidelines and Inclusive Engagement Guide.

### 3. Advice to Local Boards as required

DSAP would ideally take a proactive role in relation to Local Boards rather than wait for requests.

Examples may include:

- Input to Access Plans for Local Boards (Initially five are sought to be developed)
- Presentation to Local Boards on disability issues OR Input to Local Board Plans on request
- Responses to requests from Local Boards on strategically important disability matters.

#### 4. Contribution to Council submissions

This relates to Council submissions to external organisations.

Examples may include:

- Input to council's submission on the Building Code and joint advocacy
- Further contribution to the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan
- Input to changes in legislation or government policy relating to disability matters.

## Annual Work Programme (July 2012 – June 2013)

### AUCKLAND COUNCIL'S DISABILITY STRATEGIC ADVISORY GROUP: WORK PROGRAMME

The work programme will guide and prioritise the work of the Disability Strategic Advisory Group (DSAG). The work programme is based on priorities from both Auckland Council and DSAG.

#### Rational

To align the goals, structure, processes and resources for maximum impact and success. No longer should Council's ability to meet the needs of disabled people be dependent on, and perhaps limited to, special allocations of disability-related funding. It is desirable to quickly integrate "across-the-board" disability awareness into usual planning, policy and procedures development across Council.

#### Purpose

- Guides what is the best use of our monthly meetings
- Helps DSAG to focus on delivering tangible outcomes for Council (given limited time, resources and capacity)
- Assists DSAG to plan what to prioritise in regards to both reactive and proactive work
- Provides Council officers with guidance so they can organise appropriate reports and presentations for DSAG
- Required in the Terms of Reference and Relationship Agreement.

#### Considerations

- Does this make the best use of the expertise / special interests of DSAG members?
- Are other parts of Council already working on this issue (e.g. Disability Advisors)?
- Current DSAG budget parameters
- Making an impact on a number of levels = change at broadest strategic level, change for a large group of people, change in a persistent problem area, change most likely to win support and co-operation of others to achieve improvements
- Strategic deployment of DSAG's unique perspective and limited resources to issues. I.e. if DSAG didn't lead, who would? Who else has a stake in the matter? Which part of Council is the appropriate lead / funder of the disability perspective?

#### Engagement

There are likely to be different levels of engagement depending on the issue and its importance to people with disabilities. DSAG may want different levels of engagement at different points in the development / consideration of an issue / strategy.

*Levels of Engagement [Adapted from International Association for Public Participation (IAP2)]*

Item 7

Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate	Empower
<p>To provide balanced and objective information to assist in understanding the problem, alternatives, or solutions</p>	<p>To obtain feedback on analysis, alternatives, or decisions, and to feedback how input influenced decisions</p>	<p>To work directly with the community to ensure all concerns are understood and considered, and aspirations are directly reflected in alternatives developed</p>	<p>To partner with the community in each aspect of the decision-making for direct advice and innovative ideas including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution</p>	<p>To engage in meaningful community development processes and to place final decision making in the hands of the community</p>

**Monitoring and reporting:**

This work programme has a list of activities which will be the basis to monitor and track progress. These activities will be updated regularly in discussion with Council officers. This will allow for the programme to be responsive to council and DSAG priorities.

DSAG can advance its primary function of **strategic advice** by way of making **recommendations** (and monitoring the outcomes of those). There are a wide range of possible recommendations available to progress matters:

- Additional DSAG meeting or workshop
- DSAG sub-committee
- DSAG representation on working party / project group
- DSAG representation at Council, Local Board, Advisory Panel or CCO meeting, hearing or event
- Separate community engagement meeting hosted by DSAG
- Discussion of item at regular DSAG meeting
- Receive materials primarily for information only (e.g. TAAG, RDAG minutes etc.)
- Collaborative action with Disability Advisors (report from / referral to)
- Formal documentation of research, analysis and commentary / position statement
- Systematic pro-forma submission (e.g. using aspirations statements as template)
- Ad-hoc written correspondence / submission
- Verbal communication (face-to-face, phone)
- Media release

Attachment B

- Referral or escalation to the Governing Body, a Council Committee or Forum, IMSB, Advisory Panel, Local Board, Council Officer or CCO
- Invitations to attend the DSAG meeting Public Forum

Strategic Priority Areas	Key Tasks / Strategy or Policy	Related Work / Next Steps	Responsibility / Lead	Priority	Timeframe
Accessible environment and urban design	Unitary Plan	On-going input of DSAG	DSAG	High	
	Housing Strategic Action Plan	On-going input of DSAG	DSAG	High	
	Auckland Design Compendium	Further explanation to come	Council officers	Medium	
	Area Plans	On-going input of DSAG	DSAG	Medium	
	Public Spaces and Trading Places By-law Review	Report on outcomes of review from officers	Council officers	Low	
	Community Facilities Review	Report on “Foot in the Door” project, access audits etc.	Council officers	Low	Early 2013
	Emergency Management	Encourage Local Boards to ensure Civil Defence plans cater for all access needs	DSAG/Local Boards	Low	
Accessible information and communications	Council’s Customer Service Accessibility Policy	Further explanation to come	Council officers	High	
	Council-wide Accessibility Policy	Advocate to councillors the need for a comprehensive Accessibility Policy for all Council information and communication	DSAG	High	
	Council’s Customer Service Accessibility Policy	Report on “Getting the Message” project by officers	Council officers	Low	Early 2013
Accessible and effective public transport	Regional Public Transport Plan	On-going input of DSAG	DSAG	High	
	Transport Accessibility Advisory Group	Report on TAAG’s consideration of ‘Walkabout’ recommendations (f) and (g)	Auckland Transport	Medium	Nov / Dec 2013
	Code of Practice	Further explanation to come	Council officers	Medium	
Inclusive events and access to arts and culture	Events Policy	Further explanation to come	Council officers	Medium	
	Arts and Culture Strategy	Further explanation to come	Council officers	Medium	

	Sport and Recreation Strategy	Further explanation to come	Council officers	Medium	
	Libraries Future Direction	Further explanation to come	Council officers	Medium	
Management and reporting (Council / Local Boards / CCOs)	The Southern Initiative	On-going input of DSAG	DSAG	High	
	CCO Letter of Expectation & Statement of Intent (2013-14)	Advocate for obligatory reporting on inclusion/access	DSAG	Medium	Dec 2012
	Local Board Plans	Report on Accessible Boards contract with Be Accessible / Waitemata Local Board trial	Council officers	Low	Mid 2013
Valuing the voice of persons with disabilities	Community Development Strategy	On-going input of DSAG	DSAG	High	
	HR Diversity Strategy	Develop dialogue on options for affirmative action targets, cadetships etc	DSAG	Medium	
	Maori Wellbeing Plan	Explore opportunities for engagement and partnerships	Council / Independent Maori Statutory Board	Medium	
	Children and Young People Strategic Action Plan	Explore opportunities to contribute	Council	Medium	
	Auckland Regional Migrant Settlement Strategy	Explore opportunities to contribute	Council	Medium	
	Accessible Local Elections	Report on “Growing Active Citizens” projects by officers	Council officers	Low	Mid 2013



## Building Code Access Review

File No.: CP2014/01967

### Purpose

1. Providing the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel with the opportunity to be briefed on the disability access review. The Panel is asked to consider providing input to the Council's submission.

### Executive Summary

2. The disability access review is being jointly undertaken between the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the Office for Disability Issues. The Terms of Reference for this review are set out in the attachment.
3. Auckland Council is preparing a submission on this review. The consultation period is proposed to end at 30 April 2014.
4. A staff member from the Building Control department has been invited to present to the meeting to. The Disability Strategic Advisory Panel has the opportunity to provide input to the council submission where it considers it is appropriate to do so.

### Recommendation/s

That the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel:

- a) consider providing input to the Council's submission on the disability access review being jointly undertaken between the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the Office for Disability Issues.

### Attachments

No.	Title	Page
A	Terms of Reference for the disability access review	25

### Signatories

Author	Martine Abel – Programme Advisor Disability
Authoriser	Kevin Wright - Manager: Transport Strategy – Lead Officer Support DSAP



## Terms of Reference for disability access review

The disability access review is a joint undertaking between the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the Office for Disability Issues. This review will look at whether the current building regulatory system meets the needs of disabled people. It aims to gain a better understanding of how building access requirements are being implemented in new and older buildings, and the extent to which the requirements provide for access to buildings for disabled people. Recommendations from the review are due by mid 2014.

For more information, including the review's Terms of Reference, go to:  
[www.dbh.govt.nz/disability-access-review](http://www.dbh.govt.nz/disability-access-review) .

The review is to be undertaken jointly between the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and the Office for Disability Issues (ODI). It will consist of the following steps:

- a. Summarise the current situation
- b. Targeted consultation with sectors involved - consultation will not be held with the wider public
- c. Compile findings of the consultation

This review uses the following definition of people with disabilities, taken from the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities:

“Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.”

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### 1. Purpose of the review

The purpose of this review is to gain a better understanding of how the requirements for people with disabilities contained in the Building Act and the Building Code are being implemented in new buildings, as well as buildings being altered, and the extent to which these requirements do in fact provide an accessible built environment for people with disabilities. If not, to identify whether this is due to:

- The regulatory requirements being unknown

- The regulatory requirements being known but misunderstood
- The regulatory requirements being known but not complied with (and if so, why not), or
- The regulatory requirements are being complied with but are too low or not fit-for-purpose.

The review will also ask stakeholders about their understanding of the availability, content and adequacy of documents, such as:

- New Zealand Standard 4121:2001 “Design for access and mobility – buildings and associated facilities”
- Acceptable Solutions and guidance issued by MBIE, and
- Other documents and resources relevant to achieving compliance with the New Zealand Building Code.

The review should be an exploration of ‘issues’ but it could also record any ideas for practical changes. MBIE/ODI will not be bound by any views of any stakeholders.

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## 2. Roles and responsibilities

The review is a joint review between MBIE and ODI – it is a Ministry review, not a Ministerial review.

This means officials from MBIE and ODI will make recommendations to

- Andrew Crisp, Deputy Chief Executive, Infrastructure and Resources Markets, MBIE; and
- Sacha O’Dea, General Manager Older People and International Policy, Ministry of Social Development (MSD)

who will in turn provide advice to the Chief Executives Group on Disability Issues.

A consultant will be employed to undertake the consultation with stakeholders selected by officials (and any other stakeholder who expresses an interest). The consultant will report back on the findings from the consultation but will not make recommendations.

Stakeholders to be engaged with will be from the following groups: regulators and monitoring agencies, building owners, building designers, building users, advocacy and interest groups, and disabled people's organisations.

An Access Reference Group has been established to comment on these terms of reference, and will advise on the more technical aspects that may come out of the consultation. They will not make recommendations.

Membership of the Access Reference Group is in the Appendix.

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### **3. Steps in the review**

#### **a. Summarise the current situation:**

List relevant sections of the Building Act and clauses of building code and acceptable solutions, explain how they are implemented. This work will be undertaken by MBIE officials.

#### **b. Consult with sectors involved:**

Engage a contractor/consultant to conduct a series of meetings with selected stakeholders (with the purpose of identifying key issues/themes), then to hold one or two forums to discuss these in more detail.

#### **c. Compile findings of the review and consultation:**

The consultant will be asked to report back on views expressed, but the consultant will not make recommendations.

The Access Reference Group will be asked to comment on the analysis by MBIE and ODI of the consultation and the options they identify.

MBIE and ODI will generate conclusions about next steps, make recommendations to senior officials, and will brief the Ministers on these.

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#### 4. Timeframe

27 November – meeting with ODI and Access Reference Group to finalise these terms of reference

29 November – meeting of Chief Executives Group on Disability Issues

20 December – appoint consultant to undertake the consultation

End of April 2014 – consultation complete

End of May 2014 – Analysis of consultation and options discussed with Access Reference Group. The meeting will be chaired by Duncan Joiner, Chief Architect, MBIE

End of June 2014 – MBIE and ODI staff make recommendations to senior officials

#### Appendix

##### Membership of the Access Reference Group

The members of the Access Reference Group are:

- Alexia Pickering, Director, Accessible Options,
- Vivian Naylor, CCS Disability Action,
- Ron Pynenburg, Pynenburg and Collins Architects,
- Bill Wrightson, Director, Wrightson and Associates, Current Chair of Barrier Free New Zealand Trust
- Jason Strawbridge, Technical Manager, Barrier Free New Zealand Trust

- Simon Tonkin, Chief of Building Controls, Invercargill City Council
- Neil Jarvis, Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind
- Carina Duke, Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind  
Stuart Keene, Hearing Association of New Zealand



## Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan

File No.: CP2014/02039

### Purpose

1. To consider input to the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan.

### Executive Summary

2. The Disability Strategic Advisory Panel has previously made a submission on the draft Unitary Plan on 17 May 2013. The Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan (PAUP) has been notified and submissions are due by 28 February 2014.
3. Don McKenzie has circulated to other members of the Panel draft feedback on the PAUP (Attachment A). This identifies 30 clauses which are supported and 24 clauses where minor wording amendments are recommended together with a rationale for the suggested changes. This meeting provides the opportunity for the Panel to further consider this feedback.
4. Auckland Council intends to provide a submission to the Independent Hearings Panel. In accordance with the direction from the Governing Body, the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel cannot submit except as agreed with the Mayor. The principle is that panels help support a council submission, rather than compete with a council submission. Granting an exception would need to be in unusual circumstances.
5. If the Panel wishes to provide feedback in accordance with the attached draft feedback, there are several options in terms of how this could be done:
  - (a) The Panel requests the Mayor's approval for an independent submission; or
  - (b) The Panel provides its feedback informally to council for consideration in the council's submission and/or consideration of other submissions relating to disability matters; or
  - (c) Panel members consider incorporating the submission points in their organisations' or individual submissions.

### Recommendation/s

That the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel:

- a) consider the draft feedback on the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan and how this feedback will be provided.

### Attachments

No.	Title	Page
A	Draft Feedback PAUP	33

### Signatories

Author	Kevin Wright - Manager: Transport Strategy – Lead Officer Support DSAP
Authoriser	Kevin Wright - Manager: Transport Strategy – Lead Officer Support DSAP



**Submission on the draft Auckland Council Unitary Plan, notified 30 September 2013.**

**Preamble:**

This submission is made on behalf of.

Acknowledgement: The writer acknowledges the helpful support given by Anthony Horton, Planning Officer Auckland Council who went to extra lengths to make the Notified Unitary Plan available online in a form that could be read by blind persons using screen reading software.

Layout and rationale:

Of the 54 clauses of the Plan cited in this submission, 30 are supported unequivocally. The remaining 24 clauses recommend minor wording amendments and give rationale for the suggested changes. Amendments are recommended for the long-term liveability of Auckland, the region's social inclusion and the social and economic well-being of people of all ages and abilities.

The population represented by this submission has a wider interest in the final outcomes of the notified Unitary Plan than many others. Current laws, strategies and policies, have not, despite voluntary encouragement and advocacy, eliminated many avoidable barriers experienced by people of all ages and abilities to full access of facilities, services and amenities intended for public use. These obstacles restrict our full inclusion and participation in society.

Suggested amendments are marked with an asterisk for quick reference. Extracts from the Plan that relate to the thrust of this submission and that are supported unequivocally, are also listed systematically in order to record them for future reference.

Key definitions used:

"Persons with disabilities includes those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments, which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others."

Thus, disability is an evolving concept that results from the interaction between persons with impairments, society's attitudes and environmental barriers. These avoidable barriers limit the full and effective participation in society on an equal basis by people with disabilities. (see para E Preamble, United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, (UNCRPD), and article 1, "Purpose of Convention". NB.: the UNCRPD was ratified by New Zealand in 2008 and has subsequently been endorsed by 139 countries.

"**Universal access design**" means the design of products, environments, programmes and services to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialised design. (See UNCRPD, Article 2).

The "principles of universal or (inclusive) access design" are:

1. Places people at the heart of the design process;
2. Acknowledges diversity and difference;

3. Offers choice where a single design solution cannot accommodate all users;
4. Provides for flexibility in use;
5. Provides buildings and environments that are convenient and enjoyable to use for everyone.

**"Reasonable accommodation"** means necessary and appropriate modification and adjustment not imposing a disproportionate or undue burden, where needed in a particular case, to ensure to persons with disabilities the enjoyment or exercise on an equal basis with others of all human rights and fundamental freedoms (see UNCRPD, Article 2).

Essence of submission:

The thrust of this submission is that people of all ages and abilities ought to be able to access the Region's public facilities, services and amenities intended for public use with the same directness and dignity as any other ratepayer. It is about creating a level playing field and keeping up with world-wide trends.

Why reform is requested:

People with disabilities find that, despite affirmative legislation, today's Auckland remains littered with inaccessible buildings, cluttered streetscapes, hazardous traffic crossings, hard to use transport, awkward to use public swimming pools and other facilities, and inadequate accessible supported housing. Public policy as traditionally administered by Council isn't working as well as it could. New ways of doing things, a culture change, is needed to eliminate avoidable environmental barriers that limit people of all ages and abilities to freely participate in Auckland life.

Census figures put permanent disability in the New Zealand population at 17 to 20%. The region's population over 65 years is estimated at an additional 11%. An increased density of these vulnerable populations in Auckland city is likely because of the convenience of urban living, and access to support services and family.

With an aging population and an increase in chronic disease, inclusive design is not a choice but an economic and social necessity. Leadership is needed to champion a requirement to improve standards of inclusive design. Time is running out for councils to take up strategic positions and actively promote inclusive design. Outcomes don't happen without direction. It is submitted that universal access is, in fact, the core business of councils.

What is sought in a quality built environment:

Quality built environments contribute to a more equal, inclusive and cohesive society if places, facilities and neighbourhoods are designed to be accessible and inclusive for all who use them. Decisions about design, planning and management can enhance or restrict a sense of belonging; increase or reduce security; promote or reduce mobility, and improve or damage health. Acceptance of poor design of the built environment can have serious impact on people's lives.

Good design is about the built environment meeting as many people's needs as possible. Everyone at some point experiences limited mobility or agility, be it a tourist laden with luggage; a parent with young children; an older person or an individual with injuries or limiting illness. There is a need to balance commercial imperatives with well designed places that meet the functional needs

of the public. The key is to identify barriers to full inclusion as early as possible in the design process so that good design can overcome them. The needs of wheelchair users and mobility impaired people are important and obvious. However, it is also necessary to understand the barriers experienced by people with learning difficulties, mental ill health and vision and hearing impairments. One of our key messages is that design solutions that consider the broad spectrum of need benefit everyone.

Practical steps sought:

In summary and with practical solutions in mind, this submission seeks and presents rationale for:

- The progressive implementation of universal access principles within the 30 year timeframe of the Plan as outlined, in order to ensure the social inclusion and cultural integration of people of all ages and abilities into Auckland life;
- The instigation of assessment reviews during the design phase, of all new projects intended to be used by the public to ensure universal access provisions are included;
- A commitment by the Mayor and Council to ensure within their powers, full compliance with universal access design provisions;
- Establishment of a non-hierarchical forum that brings together, user advocacy groups, regulators, policy makers and industry collaborators to progress effective universal access design principles into everyday planning, to influence the Auckland Design Manual and to develop better codes of practice that support accessibility for people of all ages and abilities;
- Recruitment by Council of personnel trained and experienced in universal access design principles and their application;
- Advocacy by the Unitary Authority for a central regulatory public policy that enables Local Authorities to better meet the everyday needs of all citizens regardless of age or ability.

**Our submission is as follows:**

(1) Chapter A, Introduction:

3.4. Quality compact Auckland.

"Good design is about an outcome that responds to a particular context and delivers a well functioning and attractive building or space."

**Support.** This submission affirms that, quality design and build for people of all ages and abilities is vital to Auckland's functioning, liveability, reputation and long-term sustainability.

(2) Chapter B, Regional Policy Statement:

1. Issues of regional significance - Introduction.

1.1. Enabling quality urban growth, and

1.2. Enabling economic well-being.

**\* Amendments requested.**

The goals and outcomes sought by this submission include the creation of the following.

- A fair, safe and healthy Auckland, inclusive of all citizens.
- An Auckland of prosperity and opportunity for all.
- A well connected and accessible 'barrier-free' Auckland for all.
- A culturally rich, inclusive and creative Auckland in which all citizens can participate directly, and with dignity.
- An Auckland whose facilities, services and amenities intended for public use and enjoyment are available for people of all ages and abilities, unless such provision can be shown to be unreasonable.

Rationale for amendment: Today's Auckland is littered with buildings for public use, streetscapes, transport crossings and open spaces that present barriers to full participation by people of all ages and abilities. New attitudes, new ways of thinking and leadership are required to create an Auckland that is truly resilient and non-discriminatory. Eliminating needless barriers to free movement by all enhances the quality of life for the whole population, not just the 20% of the population with limited capacities and the additional 11% of Auckland's population which is over 65 years.

**\* Therefore, by way of amendment, this submission requests the inclusion of the following:**

- A range of housing, including affordable housing, to accommodate a diverse population with diverse needs
- Access for all ages and abilities to quality open spaces
- Community and social infrastructure, including a truly accessible and integrated public transport system.

2. Enabling quality urban growth for the next 30 years.

2.2 A quality built environment.

Objective 1B. "Provides for a rich mix of choice and opportunity for our communities and can adapt to changing needs, (diversity)."

**Support.**

Objective 1C. "Considers and reinforces use, activity centres, energy systems and movement networks which are well connected and provide convenient and equal access for all, (integration)."

**Support.**

Policy 2. "Design development to respond positively to the site, its context and the planned future character of the place, and to reinforce the role of the public realm as the primary place for public interaction."

**Support.**

Policy 4. "Encourage development which is designed for change of use through time."

**\* Request Amendment as follows:**

"Require and progressively implement Policy 4 within the time limits of the 30 year Plan."

Policy 5. "Design development with a level of amenity that enables long term options for living and working."

**\* Request Amendment as follows:**

"Design development with a level of amenity that enables long term options for all to live and work."

Policy 6. "Encourage development to be designed to have equal access for people of all ages and abilities."

**\* Request Amendment as follows:**

"Require and progressively implement Policy 6 within the time limits of the 30 year Plan".

Rationale for amendment:

A. The earlier in the planning process universal access design principles are adopted that accommodate flexibility of use, long term optional use and accessibility for all ages and abilities, the more economic the overall project will be. Our motto is - "Do it once, do it right". "Universal design" means the design of products, environments, programmes and services to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialised design. (see definitions, and Article 9 "Accessibility", UNCRPD, ratified by New Zealand 2008.

B. There are functional co-benefits to the overall population from using universal access design principles. Curb cuts, ramps, audible traffic signals and clear signage benefit everyone.

C. Auckland's reputation as a visitor destination will be enhanced by matching expected international standards.

D. Cities around the world with which Auckland's liveability will be compared, already strive for equal access by all people, because of anti-discrimination legislation in many jurisdictions.

E. Given these world trends, it makes economic sense to use ratepayer money on the universal design of new projects intended for use by the public to avoid expensive retrofits resulting from Human Rights complaints.

F. 2009 independent research for the UK Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE), showed savings of 84M Pounds on projects for schools, and 850M Pounds on housing projects, as a result of taking expert inclusive design advice before building.

G. In general, discrimination against persons with disabilities is unlawful under the Human Rights Act 1993. The New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 also guarantees freedom of movement (S18) and freedom from discrimination, (S19). These acts affirm, protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms in New Zealand. Future enabling urban environments should account for these affirmations, whether directly required to do so by building legislation or not.

H. "Encouragement" by legislation doesn't work. Auckland is littered with buildings that are not directly and readily accessible.

Policy 8. "Enable the development of a range of built forms within neighbourhoods to support maximum choice and recognise different lifestyles."

**Support.**

#### 2.4. Neighbourhoods that retain affordable housing.

Objective 1. "Neighbourhoods contain quality homes that help meet the housing needs of current and future, low to moderate income households."

**Support.** Many people with disabilities are in the low income bracket.

Policy 1. "Encourage residential development to provide a range of dwelling types and sizes that help meet the housing needs of households on low to moderate incomes, including social housing and lower cost, market rate housing."

**Support** – as above.

Policy 2. "Require new large-scale residential development within the RUB and encourage all other development to provide a proportion of dwellings that are affordable for the intermediate housing market."

**Support.** We welcome a five yearly review.

#### 2.6. Public open space and recreational facilities.

Objective 1. "A high quality network of public open spaces and recreation facilities that enhances quality of life for the diverse communities of Auckland, and contributes positively to Auckland's unique identity."

**Support.**

Policy 5. "Ensure public open space and recreation facilities are in locations accessible to users."

**Support.**

Policy 8 D. "Design and develop public open spaces and recreation facilities that: D, Are accessible to people of all ages and abilities."

**Support.**

### 2.7 Social infrastructure.

Objective 2. "Social infrastructure is located where it is accessible by a range of transport modes."

**Support.**

Policy 1. "Make social infrastructure accessible to users by providing for:"

\* **Request Amendment as follows:** "Make social infrastructure accessible to users of all ages and abilities unless shown to be unreasonable, by providing for:"

Rationale for amendment:

A. Social infrastructure intended for public use as listed above, ought by definition, to be inclusive and accessible by all people for effective participation in society.

B. For definition of "reasonable accommodation" see preamble.

### 3. Enabling economic well-being.

#### 3.3 Transport.

Objective 4. "A transport system that facilitates transport choices and enables accessibility and mobility for all sections of the community."

**Support.**

Policy 11. "Avoid, remedy or mitigate potential adverse effects from the transport system on community safety by: C. "Providing for the transport needs of people with special mobility requirements, including the young, aged and those with disabilities.

**Support.**

## Part 2 - Regional and District Objectives and Policies.

### Chapter C. Auckland-wide Objectives and Policies.

#### 1.1 Infrastructure.

Policy 1. "Recognise the positive social, economic, environmental and cultural effect that infrastructure provide, including:

A. "Enabling enhancement of the quality of life/standard of living for people and communities.

B. "Protecting public health and safety.

G. "Enabling interaction and communication".

**Support.**

Policy 12 "Undertake or require works to be undertaken in an existing or planned road, in a manner which will achieve positive movement, access and place-making outcomes taking into account:

E. "The selection, location and installation of streetscape amenities, such as seating, cycle parking, plaques and memorials, public art, litter bins, public toilets and drinking fountains, iii: "Avoid impeding or causing a hazard for people including those with mobility or vision impairments, aged people or children."

**Support.**

1.2 Transport.

Objective 5 "Development provides access between the road and activities by:

B. "Prioritising pedestrian safety and amenity along public footpaths."

**Support.**

Objective 6 "Safety is not compromised by access, buildings and structures adjacent to road-rail level crossings."

**Support.**

Policies "Traffic generation"

"Parking."

Policy 2 (states), "Limit the supply of on-site parking in the following locations to support the planning growth and intensification provided for in the Unitary Plan, recognise the existing and future accessibility of these locations to the rapid and frequent service network, and support walking and cycling: "A. the City, Metropolitan, Town and Local centres zones; "B. the City Centre fringe overlay; "C. the Terrace Housing Apartment Buildings zone; "D. the Mixed Use zone."

\* **Request amendment to:** "Limit the supply of on-site parking in the following locations to support the planning growth and intensification provided for in the Unitary Plan, recognise the existing and future accessibility of these locations to the rapid and frequent service network, support walking and cycling and retain reasonable provision for authorised mobility parking permit holders: ..."

Rationale for amendment:

A. Overly restrictive parking will compromise access by people with disabilities who are unable to use public transport, walk or cycle, but who are able to drive themselves.

B. The integrity of the mobility parking permit scheme and its functionality in a liveable city ought to be retained on the grounds of reasonable accommodation.

7. General.

## 7.2. Lighting.

Objective 2. "Adverse effects of artificial lighting on the environment, amenity of surrounding areas, and the safety of road users are minimised."

### **Support.**

Policy 2. "Control the intensity, location and direction of artificial lighting to avoid significant glare and light spill onto adjacent sites, maintain safety for road users and minimise the loss of night sky viewing."

### **Support.**

**Note:** glare from wet pavements can be a safety hazard for people with poor vision.

## 7.3. Noise and vibration.

Policy 1. "Set noise standards to reflect the zone's function and permitted activity, recognising the potential adverse effects noise generation may have on more sensitive adjacent zones."

### **Support.**

Policy 2. "Minimise, where practical, noise at its source to mitigate adverse effects on adjacent sites."

**Support. Note:** noise for the hearing and vision impaired and for those with some neurological ailments can be disconcerting and pose a danger in some circumstances where it is not predicted.

## 7.4. Signs.

Policy 4. "Apply traffic and pedestrian traffic safety standards particularly to the wording, lighting and location of signs and variable image signs."

\* **Request Amendment to:** "Apply traffic and pedestrian traffic safety standards particularly to the wording, contrast, lighting and location of signs and variable image signs."

Rationale for amendment: Figure ground contrast and appropriate colour contrasts are critical features for sign recognition especially among the aging –ie. those over 45 years. More than 6% of New Zealand's population has sufficiently poor sight that prevent them driving, and the proportion is growing with the increase in the aging population, and the prevalence of blinding Diabetes. (Reference, "Clear focus - the economic impact of vision loss in New Zealand in 2009".)

7.8. Affordable housing. (not effective until the plan is operative).

**Support** as per 2.4, chapter B - "Neighbourhoods that retain affordable housing." above.

## Chapter D. Zone objectives and policies.

### 1. Residential zones.

#### 1.1 General Objectives and Policies for the Residential Zones.

Objective 2. "A diverse range of housing provides choice for households and communities to meet their varied needs and lifestyles."

### **Support.**

Policy 4. "Require a percentage of medium to large-scale residential development to provide equal

physical access and use for people of all ages and abilities."

**\* Request Amendment to:** "Require a percentage of medium to large-scale residential development to provide equal access and use for people of all ages and abilities."

Rationale for amendment:

A. Inclusion of the word "physical" implies locomotor or mobility restriction alone. Accessibility may also be impeded by a variety of sensory and-or perceptual impairments.

B. Throughout the Plan consistency of language and concept is important to avoid confusion and misinterpretation.

1.6 Mixed housing urban zone.

**\* Request Amendment by the addition of a Policy 9:** "Require dwellings to be designed to prioritise pedestrian access, safety and movement."

Rationale for amendment:

A. The amenity value, particularly proximity to public transport, makes this zone attractive to older people down-sizing and to people with functional limitations.

B. Functional utility for dwellers should have equal priority with visual appearance - amenity.

C. Encouragement or incentives ought to be offered for the installation of lifts or similar, where dwelling blocks are three or more storeys to ensure full utilisation and uptake.

1.7. Terrace housing and apartment buildings zone.

Objective 1. "Land surrounding centres, the rapid and frequent service network is efficiently used to provide urban living that increases Auckland's housing supply and access to centres and public transport."

**Support.**

Objective 3. "Development provides high-quality on-site amenity for residents and achieves a reasonable standard of amenity for adjoining sites."

**Support, on condition that** - access to multi-level living for all ages and abilities is facilitated and reasonable accommodations made.

Policy 8. "Require dwellings to be designed to: D. "Prioritise pedestrian access, safety and movement."

**Support, provided that:** access to multi-level living for all ages and abilities is facilitated and reasonable accommodations made.

2. Public Open Space zones.

2.2. Informal recreation zone.

Policy 8. "Require the location and design of parking areas to: A. "Be convenient for users of the public open space."

\* **Request Amendment as follows:** “Require the location and design of parking areas, toilets and main carriage ways to: A. Be accessible and convenient for all users of the public open space.”

Rationale for amendment:

A. Provisions for accessibility by people of all ages and abilities are traditionally seen as expensive "add-ons" rather than being incorporated into initial design considerations. It makes economic sense to incorporate universal design principles into initial planning. (See preamble for definition). Such provisions are not costly if:

- Amortised over many projects;
- Costed over a 10 year development timeframe;
- The co-benefits to the whole population are considered; and,
- Expensive retrofits are avoided.

B. Public space, by definition, ought to be inclusive of all people.

C. The absence of accessible toilets and carriage ways for wheelchairs in some scenic locations limits overall accessibility.

2.3. Sport and active recreation zone.

Policy 3. "Require the location, scale and design of new buildings and structures and additions to complement the character of the public open space, retain a level of spaciousness, enable opportunities for informal surveillance, and maintain a reasonable level of amenity for users of the public open space."

\* **Amendment requested:** “Require the location, scale and design of new buildings and structures and additions to complement the character of the public open space, retain a level of spaciousness, enable opportunities for informal surveillance, and maintain a reasonable level of amenity for all users of the public open space.”

Rationale for amendment:

A. people of all ages and abilities are often keen and proud spectators of sport.

B. Simple access provisions are often not "top-of-mind" priorities in sporting complexes, yet grandparents and incapacitated parents and siblings can be keen spectators.

2.4 Civic Spaces zone.

Objective 1. "Quality urban public open spaces are available for residents, visitors and workers to enjoy informal recreation, social interaction and civic and community events."

\* **Request Amendment to:** “Quality urban public open spaces are available for residents, visitors and workers of all ages and abilities, to enjoy informal recreation, social interaction and civic and

community events.”

Rationale for Amendment:

A. Civic and community open spaces ought not to exclude residents, visitors and workers for want of universal design considerations that include all citizens. It's about user outcomes and function, as well as RMA considerations.

B. People with poor locomotor (mobility), and/or vision can find open spaces hard to navigate unless simple access measures are designed into the project. Eg.: Aotea Square.

2.5. Community zone.

Objective 1. "Public open spaces provide for existing and future community buildings and activities."

\* **Request Amendment to:** "Public open spaces provide for existing and future community buildings and activities that include people of all ages and abilities."

Rationale for Amendment:

A. Civic and community open spaces ought to facilitate, not exclude anyone for want of universal design considerations that enable people of all ages and abilities to participate in public affairs.

3. Business Zones.

3.1. General objectives and policies for the Centres and Mixed Use zones and the General Business and Business Park zones.

Policy 3. "Require development to be of a quality and design that positively contributes to the public realm and maximises pedestrian amenity, movement, safety and convenience for people of all ages and abilities."

**Support.** We feel this is a very good initiative.

Policy 4. "Require a percentage of residential development and encourage all other development to provide equal physical access and use for people of all ages and abilities."

\* **Request Amendment to:** "Require a percentage of residential development, and require within the 30 year lifetime of the Plan, all other development to provide equal access and use for people of all ages and abilities."

Rationale for amendment:

A. The earlier Auckland Council sets its expectations to match accessibility standards to include all people, the more economic and less disruptive will be future adaptation of the built environment. If Auckland is serious about its liveability; about becoming an international centre of world standing that is inclusive of everyone; that respects equality of education and work opportunities; then, the Plan must embrace the elimination of avoidable barriers to free movement for all in places intended for public use and enjoyment.

B. Delete the word "physical" as it implies locomotor or mobility restriction alone. Accessibility may also be impeded by a variety of sensory and-or perceptual impairments.

C. Consistency of language and concept is important throughout the Plan to avoid confusion and misinterpretation.

#### 3.4. Town Centre zone.

Policy 4. "Require development to achieve a high standard of design."

\* **Request Amendment to:** "Require development to achieve a high standard of universal access design, unless shown to be an unreasonable accommodation."

#### Rationale for amendment:

Reasonable access for people of all ages and abilities ought to, within the Plan's term, become the default standard.

#### 3.5. Local Town Centres.

Policy 2. "Require development to achieve a high standard of design."

\* **Request Amendment to:** "Require development to achieve a high standard of universal access design, unless shown to be an unreasonable accommodation."

#### Rationale for amendment:

Reasonable access for people of all ages and abilities ought to, within the Plan's term, become the default standard.

#### 3.6. Neighbourhood Centre zone.

Policy 2. "Require development to achieve a high standard of design."

\* **Request Amendment to:** "Require development to achieve a high standard of universal access design, unless shown to be an unreasonable accommodation."

#### Rationale for amendment:

Reasonable access for people of all ages and abilities ought to, within the Plan's term, become the default standard.

#### 3.7. Mixed use zone.

Policy 4. "Require development to achieve a high standard of design."

\* **Request Amendment to:** "Require development to achieve a high standard of universal access design, unless shown to be an unreasonable accommodation."

#### Rationale for amendment:

Reasonable access for people of all ages and abilities ought to, within the Plan's term, become the default standard.

#### 8. Special Purpose zones.

### 8.3. Healthcare Facility zone

Policy 3. "Enable detailed site-specific planning to reflect how major hospital and healthcare facility sites will be used and developed."

\* **Request Amendment to:** "Enable detailed site-specific planning to reflect how major hospital and healthcare facility sites will be used and developed, noting the requirements of many non-ambulatory visitor-patients, and their need for proximity parking and-or pick-up and drop-off areas."

Rationale for amendment:

The functional requirements of health service users ought to have high priority in design and development.

### 8.4. Major recreation facility zone.

Objective 2. "Major recreation facilities are enabled to: A. "Provide for the social, economic and cultural well-being of people and communities."

\* **Request Amendment to:** A. "Provide for the social, economic and cultural well-being of all people and communities."

Rationale for amendment:

A. Major public facilities supported by public money ought to be explicitly inclusive of all people, unless such provision is shown to be unreasonable. Traditionally, the provision of adequate ramps and accessible toilets are overlooked.

B. Major recreation facilities supported by public funding ought to enable active and/or passive participation by people of all ages and abilities.

Policy 7. C. "Are of a good standard of design and appearance."

\* **Request Amendment to:** "Are of a good standard of accessible design and appearance."

Rationale for amendment:

Many Aucklanders, regardless of age and ability, love to watch their recreation and sport.

### 8.7. Retirement Village zone.

Objective 3. "Developments are well designed and provide high-quality on-site amenity."

\* **Request Amendment to:** "Developments are well designed with full accessibility for residents in mind, and provide high-quality on-site amenity."

Rationale for amendment:

Internal and external design and build that incorporates the concepts of universal access can markedly reduce resident dependency and enhance dignity and personal autonomy.

### 8.9. School zone.

Objective 1. "The educational needs of schools' students are met and the well-being of students, staff and visitors is provided for."

\* **Request Amendment to:** "The educational needs of schools' students are met and the well-being of students, staff and visitors is provided for including accessibility requirements."

#### Rationale for amendment:

There is a strong economic rationale for accessibility requirements being built into new education-based projects. Avoid complaints and expensive refits under equal rights legislation; eliminate avoidable barriers to student education, and to staff employment opportunities; and ensure more flexible use of premises by local communities. (The Ministries of Education and Health are generally ahead of Councils when it comes to understanding and implementing accessibility provision).

### 8.10 Tertiary Education zone.

Objective 1. "Tertiary education facilities meet the education needs of their students, facilitate research and development, and provide for the well-being of staff, students and visitors."

\* **Request Amendment to:** "Tertiary education facilities meet the education needs of their students, facilitate research and development, and provide for the well-being of staff, students and visitors, including the reasonable provision of accessibility requirements."

Rationale for amendment: There is a strong economic rationale for accessibility requirements being built into new education-based projects. Avoid complaints and expensive refits under equal rights legislation; eliminate avoidable barriers to student education, and to staff employment opportunities; and ensure more flexible use of premises.

## Part 3 Regional and District rules.

### Chapter H. Auckland-wide rules.

#### 6.6. Affordable housing.

1.1. Number of retained affordable housing dwellings. "Where a new development within the RUB contains more than 15 dwellings or involves the creation of more than 15 vacant sites, at least 10% of the total number of dwellings or vacant sites within the development must be retained for affordable housing."

**Support.** Access provisions equivalent to "Life Mark standards, ought to apply to some affordable housing stock.

Rationale: It is reliably estimated that between 40 and 70% of people with permanent disabilities do not have fulltime employment and are often reliant on social housing schemes to meet their needs.

### Chapter I. Zones rules.

1. Residential zone rules.

6.12. Development controls - Universal Access: Medium to large-scale residential development: also applicable to: 7.22, mixed housing suburban zone; 8.24, mixed housing urban zone; 9.23 terrace housing and apartment buildings zone.

"Purpose: Medium to large-scale residential development provides equal physical access and use for people of all ages and abilities."

\* **Request Amendment to:** "Purpose: Medium to large-scale residential development provides equal access and use for people of all ages and abilities, having reasonable regard to locomotor sensory or perceptual impairment."

Rationale for amendment:

A. Dignified and direct access to buildings, open spaces and public facilities can be constrained by physical, (locomotor), sensory or perceptual factors as well as personal circumstances – mothers with push-chairs, travellers with luggage etc. Universal access is most usefully thought of as eliminating avoidable design and built barriers to access for all people. New Zealand law and design practice is outdated when it comes to inclusion and the elimination of avoidable barriers to participation and enjoyment of facilities, services and amenities intended for public use. If Auckland's "liveability" is to become real, then Councils must show practical leadership that fosters independent functioning by all citizens through more inclusive design.

B. Consistency of language and interpretation of what may constitute disability is important for proper administration and regulation.

10. Assessment restricted discretionary activities.

10.2 Assessment criteria.

F. Design of parking and access. - Location and design of vehicle and pedestrian access. viii, "The design of pedestrian routes between dwelling entries, carpark areas, private and communal open space and the street should provide equal physical access for people of all ages and physical abilities and provide a high level of pedestrian safety and convenience."

\* **Request Amendment to:** The design of pedestrian routes between dwelling entries, carpark areas, private and communal open space and the street should provide equal access for people of all ages and abilities and provide a high level of pedestrian safety and convenience.

Rationale for amendment:

A. Mothers with toddlers and push-chairs, travellers with bulky luggage or, people with poor sight or hearing, and perceptual difficulties may all be endangered, as well as residents with locomotor impairment. Good lighting and the "shared space" concept is useful here.

B. Design and build ought to be inclusive of all people, irrespective of usual circumstance.

C. Consistency of language and interpretation of what constitutes disability is important for administration purposes.

ix. Ramps. "Ramps where necessary, should be minimal in length and integrated into the design of the building and landscaping."

\* **Request for amendment:** This wording needs review for the following reason -. If a ramp is necessary it probably needs to be of a length and gradient that enables wheelchair access. (See NZS4121).

Accessibility of common areas.

x. "Common areas within buildings should be designed to provide equal physical access for people of all ages and abilities."

\* **Request for amendment to:** Common areas within buildings should be designed to provide equal access for people of all ages and abilities.

Rationale for amendment:

A. Delete the word "physical" as it implies locomotor restriction alone. Mothers with toddlers and push-chairs, travellers with bulky luggage or, people with poor sight or hearing, and perceptual difficulties may all be inconvenienced, as well as residents with locomotor impairment. Good lighting and adequate space is important.

B. Design and build ought to be inclusive of all people, irrespective of circumstance.

C. Consistency of language and interpretation of what constitutes disability is essential for administration.

11. Assessment - development control infringements.

Matters of discretion. "In addition to the general matters set out in clause 2.3 of the general provisions, the Council will restrict its discretion to the matters listed below for the relevant development control infringement: 8 "Universal access - effects on accessibility."

**Support.**

11.2 Assessment criteria. "In addition to the general assessment criteria for development control infringements in 2.3 general provisions, Council will consider the relevant criteria below for the listed development control infringements:

6. "Universal access: a. "Effects on accessibility". I. "For development that infringes this control, consideration will be given to whether meeting the control would cause a significant amount of land modification and adverse effects on the landscape or natural features of the site." II. "Consideration will also be given to whether other universal design features are incorporated into the development that would mitigate any adverse effects created by the infringement".

\* **Request for amendment by the addition of the following two clauses:**

A. Provided that, such decisions are taken in consultation with practitioners experienced in Universal Access Design and reflect the technologies and best practice of the day.

B. That, compromise mitigations or offsets are deemed, by practitioners experienced in Universal

Access Design, to be reasonable, workable and state of the art.

NB: Experienced universal access design practitioners with a knowledge of design, build, impairment and disability are scarce in this country; there is a case for Auckland Council to build capacity experienced in universal (inclusive), design.

Public open space zones.

4. Assessment - restricted discretionary activities.

4.2. Assessment criteria. D, Development design, external appearance and landscaping: - last bullet point: "Developments, including building and structures for public use are designed to provide equal physical access for people of all ages and abilities."

**\* Request for amendment to:** Developments, including building and structures for public use are designed to provide equal access for people of all ages and abilities.

Rationale for amendment:

A. Delete the word "physical" as it implies locomotor restriction alone.

B. Consistency of language and a clear understanding of what constitutes 'disability' are essential for administration and fairness.

Business Zones.

4.6. Buildings fronting the street. 3rd bullet point: "Making buildings accessible by providing convenient and direct access between the street and building for people of all ages and abilities".  
**Support.** This is an excellent initiative! We would like this clause promulgated throughout the Plan.

4.7. Building entrances. "Ensure building entrances": 3rd bullet: "Provide convenient and direct access between the street and building for people of all ages and abilities".

**Support.**

4.12. Ground floor at street frontage level. "Make buildings accessible by providing convenient and direct access between the street and building for people of all ages and abilities".

**Support.**

4.20. Dwellings, visitor accommodation and boarding houses.

1. "Dwellings must comply with the controls specified for the relevant zones below:

A. "In the metropolitan centre zone refer to City Centre zone rules: vii: "Universal access for residential buildings".

**Support.**

B. In the town centre, Local centre, neighbour centre and mixed use zones, refer to the terraced

housing and apartment building zone rules: X. "Universal access".  
**Support.**

6. Assessment - Restricted discretionary activities.

6.2. Assessment Criteria. "Council will consider the relevant assessment criteria below for the restricted discretionary activities listed above.

1. "Drive through facilities, activities within 30m of a residential zone, Supermarkets greater than 4000m in the Local Centre zone. "C. "Design of parking, access and servicing. iv. "Pedestrian access between parking areas, building entrances-lobbies and the street should provide equal physical access for people of all ages and physical abilities, and provide a high level of pedestrian safety".

**\* Request for amendment to:** Pedestrian access between parking areas, building entrances-lobbies and the street should provide equal access for people of all ages and abilities, and provide a high level of pedestrian safety.

Rationale for amendment:

A. Access may be impeded by all manner of circumstance. Poor sight or hearing and perceptual difficulties as well as purely physical, (locomotor) type restrictions may prevail. Residents may be endangered for a variety of design-based reasons including, good lighting, clear markings and signage. The "shared space" and appropriate clear signage concept is useful here.

B. Design and build ought to be inclusive of all people, irrespective of their usual circumstance.

C. Consistency of language and interpretation of what constitutes 'disability' is important for administration purposes.

V. "Separate vehicle and pedestrian access should be provided within parking areas, and between parking areas, buildings and the street. "Shared pedestrian and vehicle access may be appropriate where a lane or street is proposed within a development site. "The shared access should prioritise pedestrian movement".

**\* Support – on condition that clear signage is required.**

viii. "Where ramps are necessary they should be minimal in length and integrated into the design of the building."

**\* Request for amendment of this wording.**

Rationale for amendment: There is a possible contradiction with standard NZS4121.

4. City Centre zone.

4.41. Universal access for residential buildings.

**Support.**

6.2. Assessment criteria.

C. Design of parking, access and servicing. vii, "Ramps where necessary should be minimal in length and integrated into the design of the building."

**\* Request for amendment of this wording.**

Rationale for amendment: As above, there is a possible contradiction with standard NZS4121.

D. Design and layout of dwellings, visitor accommodation and boarding houses. iv. "Common areas within buildings containing dwellings, visitor accommodation and boarding houses should provide equal physical access for people of all ages and physical abilities, in particular by providing doorways, corridors, and circulation spaces of sufficient dimension and minimising stairs where possible."

**\* Request for amendment to:** Common areas within buildings containing dwellings, visitor accommodation and boarding houses should provide equal access for people of all ages and abilities, in particular by providing doorways, corridors, and circulation spaces of sufficient dimension and minimising stairs where possible.

Rationale for amendment:

A. The term "physical access" is open to interpretation. Use of the word "access" alone, covers the broad spectrum of usual circumstance and impairment that would be reasonably accommodated through universal (inclusive) design principles.

B. The term "physical abilities" focuses on locomotor impairment alone and discounts other impairments and personal circumstances.

C. A standard term is required throughout the Unitary Plan to obviate misinterpretation by ratepayers and administrators alike.

7. Assessment: Development control infringements.

7.1. Matters of discretion. "In addition to the general matters of discretion in clause 2.3 of the general provisions, the Council will restrict its discretion to the matters below for the listed development control infringement. 5. "Universal access: A. "Effects on accessibility."

**\* Request Amendment to:** Effects on accessibility, without compromising reasonable accommodations.

Rationale for amendment:

A. When assessing development control infringements, fairness to all parties is paramount. Reasonable accommodation for people of all ages, abilities and usual circumstances, when considering facilities services and amenities intended for public use, constitutes that fairness.

7.2. Assessment criteria: "In addition to the general matters of discretion in clause 2.3 of the general provisions, the Council will restrict its discretion to the matters below for the listed development control infringement.

5. Universal access.

A. Effect on accessibility:

I. "For development that does not comply with the universal access control, consideration will be given to whether meeting the control would cause a significant amount of land modification and adverse effects on the landscape or natural features of the site.

II. "Consideration will also be given to whether other universal design features are incorporated into the development that would mitigate any adverse effects created by the infringement."

**\* Request Amendment by the addition of the following two clauses:**

Provided that:

A. The test of "reasonable accommodation" of the needs of people of all ages and abilities is applied; and

B. Compromise mitigations or offsets are deemed, by practitioners experienced in universal access design to be reasonable, workable and state of the art, and take into account the technologies of the day.

8. Assessment, bonus floor area.

8.1. Public open space. B. Universal access.

**Support** - Incentives are desirable.

8.2. Assessment criteria: 1. Public open space. A. pedestrian safety, interest and amenity. B. V. Universal access.

**Support** - Incentives are desirable.

End.



## Council's Draft Annual Plan 2014/2015

File No.: CP2014/02092

### Purpose

1. To consider whether the Panel wishes to provide input to the Council's Draft Annual Plan 2014/2015.

### Executive Summary

2. The Panel may wish to consider whether or not to provide input to the Council's Draft Annual Plan 2014/2015. At the previous meeting of the Panel, interest was expressed in making a submission on the Council's Draft Annual Plan 2014/2015. The Panel's consideration of its annual work programme might assist in determining whether or not this is a priority.
3. The period of formal submissions closes on 24 February 2014. However, the Panel may wish to provide informal advice to the Council in relation to its plans for 2014/2015.
4. The Panel should consider whether further advice to the Council is required in light of the advice that the Panel provided to the Council on 18 November 2013 regarding priorities for the Council (Attachment A).
5. Any advice in relation to the Council's Draft Annual Plan 2014/2015 would need to be at a strategic level which reflects issues of significance to persons with disabilities. The Panel will also have the opportunity to provide advice in relation to the next Long Term Plan.

### Recommendation/s

That the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel:

- a) receive this report on the Council's Draft Annual Plan 2014/2015.

### Attachments

No.	Title	Page
A	DSAG Advice to Council 18 November 2013	57

### Signatories

Author	Kevin Wright - Manager: Transport Strategy – Lead Officer Support DSAP
Authoriser	Kevin Wright - Manager: Transport Strategy – Lead Officer Support DSAP



DSAG's advice to Council - 18 November 2013

- **Guidelines and training for staff**
  - specifically on engaging with DSAG/panels to improve consistency and quality of engagement.
- **Access and Inclusion Policy**
  - council to develop an Access and Inclusion Policy that includes a Disability Impact Assessment to guide council decision making and guidelines for engaging with disabled people and their organisations. This would complement the Accessible Communications Guidelines.
- **Resource & mechanism for connecting with community**
  - more resources to do more than just meetings, such as community summits or some other community engagement mechanism.
  - councillors, local board members and senior management to commit to attending community summits (or other mechanism).
- **Raise profile and visibility**
  - responsibility for the panels to sit in the Office of the Chief Executive.
  - KPIs for Chief Executives re accessibility and inclusion.
  - accessibility and inclusion included in CCO Statements of Intent.
  - these things would help raise the profile and visibility of the panels.
- **Governing body – advocate to central govt**
  - governing body to agree that they and officers will advocate to central government on lifting mandatory standards in the Building Code and Road Code.
  - council can model best practice by lifting its own standards but large scale progress cannot be made on lifting standards for all of Auckland without these changes.



## Chairperson's Report

File No.: CP2014/01890

### Purpose

1. Providing the Chairperson with an opportunity to reports on events since the last meeting of the Panel.

### Executive Summary

2. Dr Huhana Hickey will advise the Panel of events attended during the past months.

### Recommendation/s

That the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel:

- a) receive the Chairperson's report.

### Attachments

No.	Title	Page
A	Chairperson's report	61

### Signatories

Author	Mike Giddey - Democracy Advisor
Authoriser	Kevin Wright - Manager: Transport Strategy – Lead Officer Support DSAP



## Chairperson's report to DSAP

Kia ora koutou everyone

December and January have been busy months for me as I am sure it has been for everyone. My new year was marred with the news of my sister in law sustaining a very serious critical illness that has left her hospitalised and seriously ill from 2nd January. This has made it difficult to go outside of hospital visits and my job.

I met with the Kokogawa students from Japan on the 12th February as has been my annual journey with the Mayor for three years. Other than that it's been a quiet month.

You will no doubt note some major changes are ahead for us all as panel members and I am reconsidering my position as chair and indeed as a DSAP member because I don't like the way the process has been done. It is something we need to discuss as a team. I hope we can find some clarity around things today and make this panel the most effective panel in the future in the same way we are seen as being now. We have made a difference, we will continue to make a difference, it is how we do that we need to consider.

This is my report for January and February 2014.

Dr Huhana Hickey



## General Business

File No.: CP2014/02098

### Purpose

1. To update the Panel on issues and events that occurred since the last meeting.

### Executive Summary

2. This standing agenda item provides each member of the Panel an opportunity to update the meeting on issues and events that occurred since the last meeting of the Panel.

### Recommendation/s

That the Disability Strategic Advisory Panel:

- a) receives the verbal general discussion on issues and events occurring since the last meeting of the Panel.

### Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

### Signatories

Author	Mike Giddey - Democracy Advisor
Authoriser	Kevin Wright - Manager: Transport Strategy – Lead Officer Support DSAP