

Date: Monday, 27 June 2016
Time: 6.04pm
Meeting Room: Reception Lounge, Level 2
Venue: Auckland Town Hall
301-305 Queen Street
Auckland

Rainbow Communities Advisory Panel

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

ITEM	TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
10	Rainbow Communities Advisory Panel letter to Mayor Len Brown, Auckland Council	
A.	27 June 2016, Rainbow Communities Advisory Panel, Item 10, Rainbow Communities Advisory Panel letter to Mayor Len Brown, Auckland Council	3

Mayor Len Brown
Level 27, 135 Albert Street, Auckland
Auckland Council

cc. Cr Cathy Casey

Dear Mayor Len Brown,

Advice to Auckland Council

The Rainbow Communities Advisory Panel values the opportunity you have provided to give a voice to its communities within Auckland Council.

In the role of an advisor to the Council, the Panel would like to raise with you two issues which have been matters of ongoing concern within its communities.

The first of these is the issue of funding for community organisations.

The Panel is heartened to see that Auckland Council has supported and provided significant funding for PrideNZ and the Panel encourages the Council to continue with that support.

However, there are other organisations which find funding difficult to obtain. This was brought into particular focus through presentations made to the Panel's meeting 23 May 2016 from several Auckland based rainbow community organisations including OUTLine NZ Inc. and Proud to Play. Such organisations find it the process of obtaining funding difficult and once obtained, it is often the case that the funding is a one off or of limited duration making planning difficult.

The Panel looks to the Council for ongoing and increased support for such community groups. It also asks for opportunities to engage with the Council to explore mechanisms to facilitate funding for rainbow communities organisations.

The second issue the Panel wishes to raise concern is the recording of rainbow communities in statistics. Rainbow communities and their involvement in issues affecting the wider community are often "invisible" because statistics relevant to those communities are not collected.

The Panel has been heartened to see that questionnaires developed by the Auckland Council have recently included the option "Gender Diverse" under the heading "Gender". The Panel has also recently provided input into the Council's engagement policy to support meaningful interaction with rainbow communities. The Panel requests that you continue to support the Auckland Council in showing leadership in this area.

Kind regards,

Julie Radford-Poupard
Co-Chairperson of the Rainbow Communities Advisory Panel

Jordon Harris
Co-Chairperson of the Rainbow Communities Advisory Panel