



# Minutes Banyule Disability & Inclusion Committee

28 August 2024

## Meeting details

<b>Date of meeting</b>	Wednesday, 28 August 2024
<b>Time</b>	5:30pm – 7:00pm
<b>Venue</b>	1 Flintoff Street Greensborough Banyule City Council
<b>Chair/Facilitator</b>	Cr Tom Melican
<b>Minutes</b>	Sherryn Prinzi

## Acknowledgement of the Traditional Custodians

“Banyule City Council is proud to acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as Traditional Custodians of the land and we pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, past, present and emerging, who have resided in the area and have been an integral part of the region’s history.”

## Diversity Statement

“Our community is made up of diverse cultures, beliefs, abilities, bodies, sexualities, ages and genders. We are committed to access, equity, participation and rights for everyone: principles which empower, foster harmony and increase the wellbeing of an inclusive community.”

## Attendee

<b>Attendee name</b>	<b>Affiliation/Organisation</b>
Cr Melican	Chair
Shannon Joyce	Disability & Inclusion Committee Member
Allan Leenaerts	Disability & Inclusion Committee Member
Emma Lowe	Belgravia Leisure representative
Merryn Lawson	BANSIC representative
Kathryn Drake	IDV
Laila Fernandez	Disability & Inclusion Committee Member
Rocio Silva	Disability & Inclusion Committee Member
Ros Melling	Disability & Inclusion Committee Member
Angela Bergman	Disability & Inclusion Committee Member

## Apologies

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation/Organisation</b>
Cr Alison Champion	Councillor substitute
Gurvinder Singh Cheema	Disability & Inclusion Committee Member
Aaron Williams	Brotherhood of St Laurence (Local Area Coordinator)

## Council staff

<b>Attendee name</b>	<b>Affiliation/Organisation</b>
Sherryn Prinzi	Coordinator Community Impact
Jo Wilson	Manager Resilient and Connected Communities
Joseph Tabacco	Director Community Wellbeing

## Guests

<b>Attendee name</b>	<b>Affiliation/Organisation</b>
Roman and Aroura Urbanski	Community member

# Items

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## 1. Introduction

Joseph Tabacco read acknowledgements on behalf of Cr Melican.

- Acknowledgement of traditional custodians
- Diversity Statement
- Introduction of Joseph Tabacco, Director of Community Wellbeing, including pronoun/s.

## 2. Minutes from previous meeting

Agenda item	Progress
Sherryn to distribute the VALID tip sheet for Carers of People with disability	Contacted VALID with no response, looked at webpage and tip sheet available.
Sherryn to distribute the WaterMarc and YPRL calendar of events for Disability Pride month.	Complete
Sherryn to provide a link to EnAccess Maps	Complete <a href="https://www.enaccessmaps.com">https://www.enaccessmaps.com</a>
Council to revisit discussion with internal colleagues to discuss what can be done to address the Savers laneway access issue.	The Traffic team has committed to considering the issue as part of their planning process for the whole Greensborough Activity Centre precinct.
Council to review the East Ivanhoe Shopping precinct accessible car park and find ways to make the space safer to use.	Matter was sent to relevant officer for investigation on 28 June. The committee discussed the proposal to relocate the accessible parking space to the west car park.  This would involve converting the current space back to standard parking and directing patrons to cross Burton Crescent at the Lower Heidelberg Road intersection.  There is a formal crossing being constructed at this location as part of the streetscape works, making pedestrian access safer.
Noise complaint at WaterMarc-Belgravia Leisure to follow up again with Council, with consideration to be given to creating quiet times at WaterMarc.	WaterMarc is hosting a community network forum in September, and the matter will be raised at this forum. Any community member is welcome to participate.  The committee noted that Council still needs to investigate an infrastructure treatment such as baffling to address the noise reverberation at WaterMarc.

## 3. Committee priorities

### 3.1 Banyule Disability Website Project Update

The new images of community members, including three members of the Disability and Inclusion Committee were shown and the animation developed to introduce visitors to the website was played.

Jo Wilson discussed the new Service Navigation Program, which aims to support people to link into services, programs and activities in the Banyule community.

The committee was advised that an AA compliance audit on the website was the final task to complete, and then the website will be maintained as part of the Service Navigation Program.

It was agreed that all committee members were welcome to share the website and Council will find new ways to distribute information after mapping community networks and communication channels.

## 3.2 Events and celebrations

***Inclusive Banyule Action 3.13 We will continue to elevate visibility and awareness of people with disability through events, advocacy and days of celebration.***

Council advised that on International Day of People with Disability, Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, an Art & Craft Market will be held at the Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub from 11-4 pm.

Disability service providers will be invited to apply for a market stall to share info about their services, as well as sell artworks and items made by clients in their programs.

Short films will be screened in one of the community meeting rooms, there will be a sensory-friendly area/chill space, and people with disability will be invited to submit poetry. Writing and visual arts to respond to the theme of "The Yarra/Birrarung".

A member noted that the Malahang Festival is before IDPWD. The member reminded Council that residents want to be involved in the planning for this community event.

## 4. Inclusive Banyule actions – Year 3

The Committee reviewed the priority list developed in February 2021. The priority areas were employment, communication and accessibility, and universal design.

The key actions listed under the employment priority are included in the Inclusive Local Jobs Action Plan 2020-2025, which is currently being reviewed.

### Discussion

In relation to communication, the committee agreed the update of Council's website represented a key achievement, and the next actions to be progressed are:

1. Review the use of accessibility aids including braille, signage and hearing loops at Council facilities. Before assessing braille, check with Vision Australia to ensure the relevance of braille in contemporary society.
2. Undertake an audit of Council's Customer Service access points for accessibility. A member noted that Sunflower lanyards are a useful tool to demonstrate a person has a hidden disability, and the use of these should be part of any training offered.

With reference to the Sunflower lanyards, a member noted that PTV Protective Services Officers could be better trained, and suggested Council could advocate to PTV that this training occur.

In relation to accessibility and universal design, it was noted that the recently adopted Banyule Housing Strategy includes the principle of good design and amenity. The Strategy includes the statement: 'inclusion of accessibly designed dwellings available for people of varying abilities'.

Other key accessibility issues were noted:

The committee noted that accessibility at the Ivanhoe Train Station is still not addressed. With the understanding that this is a Council advocacy priority, the committee felt this should be listed as an Inclusive Banyule action.

A member raised that the ramp from the car park to Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub still doesn't have a handrail. Noting an accessibility audit of the site was undertaken, the committee agreed that reviewing the audit and coming to a resolution about the lack of handrails should also be an Inclusive Banyule action.

## 1. Committee purpose and objectives

### Discussion

The committee were advised this is the final meeting and the committee will be formally dissolved in September 2024, in preparation for Council's general elections in October.

The committee was invited to review and discuss the purpose and objectives in preparation for asking Council to re-establish committees after the election, likely in February 2025.

After reviewing the current purpose and objectives the committee noted:

The aim should include compliance with the Local Government Act and obligations related to community engagement.

An additional objective could be to promote the dissemination of information to the wider Banyule community.

The objective to co-design solutions to community issues with people with lived experiences could be another objective.

The next steps are to present Council with a summary of the committee's achievements and contributions to community, and a proposal to re-establish the committees, including the Disability Committee.

## 2. Committee member updates

### Discussion

Rocio - discussed the power of TikTok - she suggested a puzzle corner at libraries and libraries have taken on the suggestion. The committee discussed there are great disability advocates on Tik Tok, rating levels of disability in community spaces and services.

Emma - the sign at the lifts led to a member of the community asking to join the committee. The committee discussed more inclusive and visible ways of promoting the work of the committee.

IDV- Kate announced the merger of IDV with The Bridge. Kate noted that most disability day centres are having to merge to share the costs. IDV will change the name to The Bridge. It is anticipated that the services will stay the same.

Archie's Embrace project just fundraised the first phase of research for La Trobe and it was featured in The Age. <https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/a-rare-disease-changed-archie-s-life-fruit-flies-are-now-his-best-hope-20240815-p5k2m7.html>

Laila- Amaze is working on a program that supports businesses to be more inclusive. APlus Program will promote businesses that have gone through the training. <https://www.amaze.org.au/training/a-plus-employment-program/>

The role of young people in the community was discussed, with reference to the recent Youth Summit Report to Council. Joseph shared a few actions specific to the disability community. A highlights video can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gla-qYUrGOo>

## 3. Close and thank you's

As this was the final meeting for the term, and no further meetings are scheduled until Council agrees to reform the committee next year.

Cr Melican, on behalf of Council thanked the committee members for their inputs, seeds of ideas and for sharing information that helps Council learn and become more inclusive of people with disability.

Committee members replied, thanking Council for the opportunity to participate, learn and advocate.

Meeting closed 7.10pm