

Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee - Annual Report 2024



Overview

The Access Inclusion Advisory Committee (AIAC) met 5 times in 2024, 4 Ordinary Meetings and 1 Extraordinary Meeting to deal with AIAC approval of the Annual Report.

This Advisory Committee operates with a Co-Chair Model that ensures that people with lived experience of disabilities guide and inform the meetings planning and delivery. Mr Andrew Vodic was the Co-Chair for this term of the AIAC, working alongside Cr Margaret Wood.

The AIAC has 4 Councillors as members, 4 individuals who are community representatives and 3 organisational representatives.

As it was a Council Election year, the committee was dissolved in September 2024 in line with due process for end of term.

Membership

Cr Nuatali Nelmes, Lord Mayor

Cr Margaret Wood, Co-Chair

Cr Dr Elizabeth Adamczyk

Cr Katrina Wark

Andrew Vodic, Co-Chair, Community Disability Alliance Hunter

Chad Ramage, Accessibility in the City Newcastle

Patrick Bellamy, Clear Sky Australia

Ben Moxey, Community Member

Sandra Irons, Community Member

Lindsay Gardner, Community Member

Stewart MacLennan, Community Member

Objective of the committee

To provide advice and guidance in the application of planning instruments that prioritise access, social inclusion and overcoming discriminatory impediments to promote a highly accessible, inclusive and welcoming community that respects independence and human dignity.

Summary of key items of business considered (2024)

Date of Meeting	Business Item
Thursday 1 February 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Disability Sports Australia-Inclusive Sports Champion ProgramCount Us In 2023 Report-Program StreamsWalking and Mobility Plan Working GroupDIAP Reporting processCommunity Expos
Wednesday 20 March 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Extraordinary MeetingCount Us In 2024 Planning Progress and Consultation ReportAIAC Annual Report Consideration and Approval

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Thursday 4 April 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update Count Us In Sport 2024 Planning • Inclusion Diversity and Equity (IDE) Workplace Adjustments • Australian Network on Disability • Inclusive Sports Club Survey • Mayfield BIA Inclusion Plan • Walking and Mobility Plan Update
Thursday 6 June 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible Tourism Project Update • Newcastle 2040 Update • Walking and Mobility Plan Public Exhibition • DIAP inaugural integration into CAMMS Corporate Reporting • Count Us In 2024 Program Overview
Thursday 1 August 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return of King Edward Park / Newcastle Ocean Baths (Bathers Way) • Count Us In update

Summary of key achievements (2024)

- Various contributions towards CN's Walking and Mobility Plan. Including AIAC Newcastle Walking and Mobility Working Party.
- Input into design of Count Us In Sport 2024.
- Participation throughout Count Us In Sport 2024
- Assist design of Inclusive Sports Clubs Survey.
- Engagement with community via AIAC Members at Hunter Disability Expo.
- Providing feedback related to accessibility as part of the Newcastle Airport Upgrade.
- Providing feedback related to accessibility for CN key projects including Newcastle Ocean Baths and King Edward Park. Representing diversity of disabilities and promotion of co-design.
- Providing CN Staff with opportunities to seek input from people with lived experience.
- Providing networking opportunity between AIAC and CN's IDE accessibility network.

Summary of performance and governance (2024)

Date of Meeting	Quorum achieved	Members in attendance	Agenda circulated to members and published on CN's website	Declaration of conflicts of interest listed as agenda item	Minutes circulated to members, adopted by the committee and published on CN's website
Thursday 1 February 2024	Quorate	Cr Margaret Wood Cr Dr Elizabeth Adamczyk Andrew Vodic Chad Ramage Patrick Bellamy Ben Moxey Sandra Irons Lindsay Gardner Stewart MacLennan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wednesday 20 March 2024	Quorate	Cr Margaret Wood Cr Dr Elizabeth Adamczyk Andrew Vodic Ben Moxey Lindsay Gardner Stewart MacLennan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thursday 4 April 2024	Quorate	Cr Margaret Wood Cr Dr Elizabeth Adamczyk Cr Katrina Wark	Yes	Yes	Yes

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Thursday 6 June 2024	Quorate	Cr Margaret Wood Cr Dr Elizabeth Adamczyk Andrew Vodic Chad Ramage Patrick Bellamy Ben Moxey Lindsay Gardner Stewart MacLennan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thursday 1 August 2024	Quorate	Cr Margaret Wood Cr Dr Elizabeth Adamczyk Cr Katrina Wark Andrew Vodic Chad Ramage Patrick Bellamy Lindsay Gardener Stewart MacLennan Ben Moxey	Yes	Yes	No as not confirmed minutes as was last meeting of AIAC.

Pictures from Count Us In Sport 2024:



AIAC Co-Chairs 2022-2024. On left, Andrew Vodic, CEO of Community Disability Alliance Hunter (CDAH) with former Newcastle Councillor Margaret Wood at the Count Us In

Sport Paralympics Watch Party (September 2024)



Chris Berrons from Health Change Challenge became the face of Count Us In Sport 2024.



Guest Speakers at Count Us In Sports Inclusion Forum-R to L, Lloyd Valentine-Healthy Change Challenge, Paralympian Rae Anderson, and Former Newcastle Knight Alex McKinnon.