

### Wednesday 26th May, 2021

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10am – 12pm at The Christchurch Bridge Club, 5 Nova Place, Christchurch.

### Present

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- Alison Nichols-Dunsmuir
- Lesley Campbell
- Karim Baradi
- Marlene Beale
- Phillipa Shatford
- Hannah Rose McKnight
- Shane McInroe
- Tom Callanan
- Haley Nielson
- Sarah Davies
- Julie McGregor
- Tom McBrearty
- Rachel Mullins
- Aaron Haymes
- Clair Phillips
- Kereama Carmody
- Kirsty Peel
- Megan Allott
- Simon Atkinson
- Marg Matheson
- Merty van der Kley

### Apologies

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- None

### Minutes

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#### Welcome

Board Member Allison Nichols-Dunsmuir and Chair Ruth Jones announced the new name Disability Leadership Canterbury (DLC), showed the new logo and described our first planned access and wellbeing projects.

- Expressed importance of an ongoing independent disability voice in Canterbury.
- Desire for city to be accessible in all forms.
- New name, direction and branding takes our Group beyond the earthquakes.

[Here is a link to the full DLC Powerpoint from the Network Meeting.](#)

#### Aaron Haymes, Head of Strategic Partnerships, Christchurch City Council (CCC)

Aaron congratulated the Earthquake Disability Leadership Group Trust on the refresh to Disability Leadership Canterbury.

He presented on Central City accessibility topics brought up by disabled people at the recent hui hosted by Council to understand challenges being faced, and how the Council could improve the central city.

### *Positive Feedback:*

- New infrastructure is an improvement
- Reduced speed in the central city makes people feel safe
- Wider footpaths and new cycleways have improved access for disabled people

### *Issues Raised:*

- Bus drivers moving off before disabled people are ready
- Not enough bus shelters
- Accessible parks are not fully accessible – curb cutdowns are not always present
- Uneven surfaces
- Need more sliding doors and marked accessible routes in public buildings
- Need training for Council and building industry staff to improve their knowledge of best-practice accessibility.

### *Questions from DLC Network:*

- Easy-read version of Long Term Plan:
  - Will this happen?
  - What are the barriers to making it happen?
  - How can DLC help?Aaron will raise these questions with the Council team responsible.
- Riccarton Bus Lounge:
  - Why is this considered for removal in the Long Term Plan?Aaron encouraged DLC to make submissions on the Long Term Plan.
- Bus shelters need rubbish bins.  
Aaron taking this back to Council team responsible.
- How do we lobby central government around making going beyond the building code mandatory?

Aaron suggested creating guides on specific practices to help locally. Allison noted the work being done by Access Alliance nationally to get accessibility legislation passed. Allison also mentioned a guide created by Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment: <https://www.building.govt.nz/building-code-compliance/d-access/accessible-buildings/>

### **Kirsty Peel, Policy Advisor for the Canterbury District Health Board Emergency Control Centre**

Kirsty spoke about the phased roll-out of the Covid-19 vaccine in Canterbury and how we will achieve two doses for all people 16+ by the end of 2021.

- Frontline workers and whānau being vaccinated at present in Canterbury.

- Residential care residents and workers (aged-care, disability, mental health, City Mission clients etc.) being vaccinated at present in Canterbury.
- The roll-out then moves to people aged 16-65 who are disabled, have a mental illness, are pregnant or have an underlying health condition (similar groups to those who receive the Flu vaccine annually for free), and their whānau / support services.
- Disabled people will be invited via organisations they are affiliated with (support providers and Disabled Persons' Organisations) and their Primary Health Organisation (medical practice, GPs etc.)

[The full detailed presentation is available here.](#)

- The DLC Network expressed interest in more meetings about the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out with CDHB, CCC, disability organisations/providers and DPOs.

### Olivia Soesbergen, Senior Advisor, Office of the Ombudsman New Zealand

Olivia summarised the Ombudsman New Zealand report: [Making Disability Rights Real in a Pandemic](#). Seven key themes were found after nine months of consultation and research with disabled people, disability organisations and disabled persons' organisations, plus the Human Rights Commission and other sources of data on complaints received / issues raised by disabled people related to pandemic.

- Access to essential goods, services, and spaces
- Decision-making participation and data
- Access to information and communications – the biggest issue for disabled people
- Education – for disabled children and disabled parents who had to home school.
- Health – Covid-19 testing and PPE issues, as well as lack of treatment for other health issues, and mental health issues developing for many people for the first-time during lockdown.
- Work and employment – redundancy, access issues and a positive in that flexible, work-from-home options are now more available.
- Access to justice in places of detention, e.g., secure aged care facilities. Most adapted well to pandemic and provided contact via Zoom etc. People in secure facilities were severely affected.

The report will be used to inform response to future humanitarian disasters.

Olivia will present again with time for questions from DLC at a future meeting. People can contact the DLC Chair via email with questions for Olivia in the meantime:

[ruth@kanohikitekanohi.org](mailto:ruth@kanohikitekanohi.org).

Meeting Closed 11.50am

## Next Meeting

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> August, 10am – 12 noon, location to be confirmed.