

## Terms of Reference

### Access and Inclusion Advisory Group

#### 1. Authority and purpose

##### Authority

The Council of the City of Mandurah ('**Council**' or '**City**') has established the City of Mandurah Access and Inclusion Advisory Group (**Advisory Group**).

##### Purpose

The purpose of the Advisory Group is to provide advice and assistance to the City regarding matters relating to:

- a) Strategies identified in the City's Access and Inclusion Plan
- b) Actions detailed in the Access and Inclusion Implementation Plan
- c) Access and inclusion issues within the boundaries of the City of Mandurah

#### 2. Responsibilities

The Advisory Group is to:

- a) Represent people with disability and their networks when participating in Advisory Group meetings.
- b) Provide feedback to relevant City officers relating to City projects with specific relevance to providing access and inclusion for people with disability.
- c) Attend at least four advisory group meetings out of six meetings per calendar year.
- d) At the invitation of the City attend site visits and during such visits comply with all safety directions provided.

#### 3. Membership

##### Composition

The Advisory Group shall comprise of:

- a) Two Elected Members.
- b) 10 community members with experiences and/or knowledge of disability-related needs, trends and current challenges and the value of social inclusion for people with disability in community.
- c) One representative or their proxy from each of the two National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) local partners (early childhood intervention and 7 years plus).
- d) One representative or their proxy from Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

- e) Executive Manager Community or their proxy.

### **Role of City Officers**

The City will provide executive support for the Group, who will act as 'administrative support' and primary point of contact between the Advisory Group and the City.

The City may invite guests to attend and present to the Advisory Group. The guests include but are not limited to City Officers or external consultants.

### **Election of Chairperson**

The Advisory Group shall elect one Group Member to be chairperson. The Advisory Group may also wish to elect a Deputy Chairperson. The term of this appointment will expire on the day of the next ordinary local government election.

### **Role of Elected Member**

Individual Elected Members appointed to the Advisory Group have no authority to make Council decisions. Elected Members who are representing Council can only vote and provide advice that is consistent with Council policy or position. Elected Members must comply with the *Code of Conduct for Elected Members, Committee Members and Candidates* at all times.

### **Member Support**

Members may attend meetings with a support person to assist with disability-related needs to support active participation in the meetings and/or site visits.

## **4. Appointment**

All appointments expire on the date of an ordinary local government election held every two years and appointments of all members will be made by Council at a Council meeting following the ordinary local government election.

Appointment of Community Members will be made following a public advertisement.

The evaluation of potential members will be assessed by the City and appointments will be approved by Council on the basis of the potential member's skills and experience in any or all of the following:

- Lived experience of a disability
- Carers experience of a person with disability
- Professional experience (i.e.. working in an industry that provides support to people with disability).

The City may consider advertising for replacement members, subject to Council's approval of the membership.

## **5. Meetings**

### **Quorum**

The Quorum for an Advisory Group meeting shall be one more than half the number of members of the Advisory Group.

The Advisory Group shall not vote on any business at a meeting unless the Quorum is present. If a quorum is not present, the Advisory Group may still conduct meeting without voting on any items.

**Frequency**

Meetings shall be held quarterly, unless otherwise resolved by the Advisory Group.

This group meets bi-monthly.

**Electronic Attendance**

Electronic attendance to meetings may be permitted, however in person meetings are preferred where the agenda includes working groups or onsite visits.

**Minutes and matters arising**

All meetings shall be minuted by the Executive Support, and minutes shall be approved by the Advisory Group Meeting.

Where possible, agendas and minutes from previous meeting, along with supporting documents for discussion at the meeting, will be circulated five days prior to the Meetings.

**Reporting**

The Advisory Group shall, as and when required by the City, report fully on its activities.

**Confidentiality**

All Members will be required to adhere to the City's confidentiality requirements. In particular, no confidential information received or generated by the Advisory Group will be disclosed to unauthorised persons.

**Declarations of Interest**

Members must declare interests as matter of good governance at the commencement of a Group Meeting.

Any instance where a member(s) has a commercial interest or is closely associated with an organisation that has an interest in the business of the City which represents a conflict of interest or pecuniary interest, or there is a risk or perception of conflict of interest, should be declared to the City representative before or at the relevant meeting.