

Disability Advisory Committee Minutes

21 August 2025

1 – 3 pm Mornington Library Meeting Rooms

Attendees	Karen Ford, Sandra Oulich, Mechelle Cheers, Karen Fankhauser, John Catto-Smith, Gregg Nicholls, Monica Seal, Andrea Currie, Lauren Carlomagno, Daniel Laing, Susan Abbey, Cr Patrick Binyon
Apologies	Jim Dagiaandis, Daniel Laing, Sarah Alcock, Marcus Harris,
Guest Speaker	Michael Scully

Meeting was recorded.

#	ITEM
1.	Housekeeping and Welcome – Chair Karen Acknowledgement of Country

	• Welcome and introductions of new and returning members, including online participants. • Noted apologies.
2.	Meeting minutes confirmed 19th June 2025 Moved: Karen Fankhauser Seconded: Sandra Oulich Minutes confirmed.
3.	Sub working committee updates PACE Update (Gregg Nicholls): • Met with Minister for Ageing regarding elder abuse and vulnerable persons check. Advocated for national vulnerable persons check • Supported “Dying to Know Day” event, which was well-attended and impactful Councillor Update (Cr Patrick Binyon – Brokil Ward): • Advocacy for accessibility upgrades at Dromana Community Hall. Rotary Club may assist with funding for ramp installation. Councillor Request has been made. • Recognition for Friends of Lospalos City in Timor-Leste in local media • Discussion on ABC News story highlighting social vs medical models of disability: What are the social and medical models of disability, and how do they differ? – ABC News

	Community Partnerships Update (Lauren Carlomagno): • Shire undergoing restructure; 48 staff affected • Impact on DAC operations uncertain but currently business as usual • Media release circulated; Realignment sets Council up for the future – Mornington Peninsula Shire Chair Update (Karen Ford): • Farewell and recognition of Karen Ford's contributions since 2014 • Highlights include universal design advocacy, Changing Places, accessible beach matting, and inclusive picnic tables • Emotional reflections and gratitude shared by Karen and committee members • Circulated the farewell message provided to Karen Fankhauser
4.	Action Log update: • Pelican Park accessibility upgrades: bathroom to include ceiling hoist (not Changing Places certified) • Communication boards being installed at Dromana Hillview, Rye, and Sorrento

	• Open Space Strategy consultation open 26th of August closing 3rd of October • Belgravia Leisure introducing Community Partners Program with liability requirements for external providers • Trialling accessible version of Council Plan and Health and Wellbeing Plan with the assistance of Andrea.
5.	Access Request Log • Circulated updated log with minutes email
6.	Accessible Events Resource Speaker: Monica Seal • Update on Accessible Events Resource and project timeline • Draft version being redesigned for clarity and engagement • Examples of other resources created by other local governments circulated • Emphasis on universal design and inclusive event planning ACTION: Feedback requested from DAC members

7.	Public Amenities Strategy (Changing Places content) Speaker: Michael Scully- Principal Facilities Planner • Update on Public Amenities Strategy • Strategy to include Changing Places facilities • Consultation period: 13 October – mid-November • Survey to validate priority locations (e.g., Briars, Rye, Sorrento) • Discussion on funding, maintenance, and strategic planning • Emphasis on benefits analysis and universal design principles • Continue checking in with DAC ACTION: Will circulate survey with DAC as soon as it is circulated.
8.	General Feedback/Discussion • Federal Disability Discrimination Act Review open until 24 October ACTION: DAC to prepare formal submission with lived experience stories • Moving forward we will have a standing agenda item to receive an update from Brotherhood of St Laurence
9.	Current Projects – Shape Platform

	Draft Open Space Strategy Shape Our Future Review and provide feedback on the Draft Open Space Strategy and Draft Open Space Contributions Report. • 25 August 2025 Public exhibition of draft Strategy opens • 3 October 2025 Public exhibition of draft Strategy closes
10.	Meeting Closed: 3.02pm
11.	Next Meeting Date: 18 September 2025 Location: Murnong Meeting Room – Mornington Library Time: 1–3 pm (Lunch from 12:30 pm)

DAC MEETINGS 2025 – 3rd Thursday, Monthly

February – November 1pm – 3pm Lunch from 12:30pm – 1pm

18 September 2025

Murnong Meeting Room – Mornington Library, Vancouver St

Disability Advisory Committee



16 October 2025

Murnong Meeting Room – Mornington Library, Vancouver St