# **Minutes**

# **Liveable Cities Advisory Committee**



Date: 3 August 2021	<b>Time:</b> 5.00pm – 7:45pm	Venue: City Hall, Hunter Room, Level 2
Meeting No: 10	Meeting Objective: Liveable Cities Advisory Committee	

#### 1. Welcome

#### 1.1 Attendance

Cr John MacKenzie - Chairperson

Cr Peta Winney-Baartz

Steve O'Connor - Planning Institute of Australia

Sue Anne Ware – University of Newcastle

Kristi Jorgensen – Hunter and Central Coast Development Corporation

Michael Nolan- Compass Housing Services

David Clarke - Director Governance

Michelle Bisson - Manager Regulatory, Planning and Assessment

America Pati – Executive Assistant to Director Governance – Secretary

Kelly Arnott - Corporate Planning and Performance Manager

Rebecca Allan - Corporate Planner

Simone Soeters - Social Planner

## 1.2 Apologies

Cr John Church

#### 1.3 Guests

NIL

#### 3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

3.1 No conflicts of interest declared.

### 4. Confirmation of Previous Minutes and Actions Arising

- 4.3 Minutes from the #9 Liveable Cities Advisory Committee (LCAC) meeting on 4 May 2021, were moved and seconded by Stephen O'Connor.
- 4.1 Committee term to be extended due to Council elections being postponed to 4 December 2021, therefore the Committee will likely meet in November 2021.
- 4.2 Limited progress on the liveability index, however, an update on the Community Strategic Plan and liveability is on the agenda tonite and CN participated in the National Liveability Census in June / July, with 500 responses from the Newcastle Local Government Area. Results will be discussed at the November meeting.

## 5. Committee Effectiveness Survey

The Committee performance report is finalised and will be presented to the Council meeting on 24 August 2021. A summary paragraph, as agreed with the Chair, has been included about overall effectiveness. Suggestions to improve effectiveness have been factored into tonite's agenda. This will be a working progress and we appreciate the feedback to ensure the Committee is continuing to add value.

### 6. Development Control Plan (DCP) Review - Green Roofs

### **Presented by Michelle Bisson**

- 6.1 Michelle presented options to increase the requirement for green roofs to be incorporated into residential development designs where rooftops exceed a certain square metre rate, as part of the DCP Review Project. As outlined in the Local Strategic Planning Statement Newcastle has a commitment to greening urban areas and open spaces, as well as enhancing the urban forest, particularly through the use of green roofs and walls.
- 6.2 The Committee provided feedback on green roofs and raised a number of issues, including:
  - Need to understand the economics costs and benefits?
  - How to incentivise uptake?
  - Need public buildings to set examples
  - Lots of technological advances to ensure effectiveness
  - Positive impacts on climate
  - Being clear on the desired outcomes green, cooling, amenity, aesthetics
  - Complex to get it right, including maintenance requirements
  - Needs a clear assessment pathway
  - Is for the whole LGA? Or just City Centre?
  - Principle is OK need to understand the details
  - Need to tap into the expertise of Committee members

Action: Michelle Bisson to discuss the proposed green roof DCP framework in more detail with interested members and obtain their input, and then report back to November meeting for further feedback..

# 7. Local Social Strategy

#### **Presented by Simone Soeters**

- 7.1 Simone presented an overview of the Local Social Strategy which follows the "City of Newcastle Social Strategy: 2016-2019". The Local Social Strategy sets out City of Newcastle's aspirations for a socially just and inclusive city a place for everyone. The Strategy looks towards the future –
- "What is the social change we want and need to see in our community and our partners?"
- 7.2 Extensive engagement undertaken, including Your Place Campaign Reach of videos 183,286 views, 625 shares, 2,865 reactions (likes etc), 467 comments and 7,159 unique visitors to the microsite.
- 7.3 The Committee discussed the proposed framing for the Strategy and engagement to date. Are we able to see from the data if there is a difference in demographic with people who responded to the campaign? Simone Soeters confirmed this is information they will have access to. Currently the team are unable to call out specific demographic groups but by Sept / Oct they should have that information available.

# 8. New Community Strategic Plan Newcastle 2040

# **Presented by Kelly Arnott**

- 8.1 Kelly gave an update on continuing work on the new CSP, which proposes a number of priorities, including that by 2040 our city will have walkable neighborhoods, connected by safe roads, reliable parking, and options for active and public transport enabling access to services and facilities. We have public places that bring people together for active living and social connection. Our safe neighbourhoods are thriving and support local living. We are welcoming, enabled, and healthy and everyone is valued. We promote health, wellbeing, and equal opportunities to increase quality of life.
- 8.2 Cr MacKenzie noted that use of the term "Connected" has caused confusion in the past. Kelly Arnott confirmed this word has been used in terms of transport and community. In this instance it is in reference to the transport space. Rebecca Allan noted that transport can cause confusion as well in regard to what CN can and can't control. This is in reference to cycleways and walkways and not bus connections or public transport.
- 8.3 Sue Anne Ware highlighted the importance of translating the strategic objectives into on ground change Newcastle's on the ground research and investment is so important. Long and significant change isn't about a 3 yr. election cycle. What are the grounded things you can do in the first 3 years that prove this is the best direction for the LGA. Kelly Arnott pointed out or last plan lasted 10 years across the changing councils. The objectives remained the same. This is an overarching document that drives a 4-year goal and 1-year operational plan. The hope is that the genuine community engagement will help carry this through. The data shows that the community feels that we are on the right track, and we should focus on continuing the work we are doing.
- 8.4 David Moir asked what success has CN had to date. The goals are good, what has changed in terms of onground outcomes? Simone Soeters suggested that around the strategy we are embedding monitoring and evaluation framework. Kelly Arnott confirmed CN is working with a team on this specifically to capture those case studies and measure impact over time.

#### 9. General Business

Nil

## 10. Closing

10.1 Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021

10.2 Meeting closed at 7:45pm

Chairperson Cr MacKenzie