

Hearings Panel
Draft Equity & Inclusion Policy
MINUTES

Date: Wednesday 29 November 2023
Time: 9.01am
Venue: Draft Equity and Inclusion Policy
Committee Room 1, Level 2, Civic Offices,
53 Hereford Street, Christchurch

Present

Members
Councillor Tyla Harrison-Hunt
Councillor Sara Templeton
Councillor Celeste Donovan

Cathy Harlow
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The agenda was dealt with in the following order.

1. Apologies Ngā Whakapāha

Hearings Panel Decision

No apologies were received.

2. Election of Chairperson Te Whakatū Poumua

Hearings Panel Resolved BLHP/2023/00018

It was **decided** that Councillor Templeton be appointed Chairperson of the Hearings Panel.

Councillor Harrison-Hunt/Councillor Donovan

Carried

3. Declarations of Interest Ngā Whakapuaki Aronga

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

Councillor Harrison-Hunt stated that he knew one of the submitters, but that this would not influence his decision making.

4. Volume of Submissions - Draft Equity and Inclusion Policy

Hearings Panel Resolved BLHP/2023/00019 Officer recommendations accepted without change

That the Hearings Panel:

1. Receives the written submissions, including any late submissions, received on the Draft Equity and Inclusion Policy.

Councillor Templeton/Councillor Harrison-Hunt

Carried

5. Summary of Submissions Draft Equity and Inclusion Policy

Council Officers Claire Appleby-Phillips, Manager Community Planning and Projects and Ellen Cavanagh, Senior Policy Analyst joined the table to present the Officers report and responded to questions arising from the Hearings Panel.

Hearings Panel Resolved BLHP/2023/00020 Officer recommendations accepted without change

That the Hearings Panel

1. Receives the information within this report, including attachments, and considers the written and oral submissions made as part of the public consultation process.

Councillor Templeton/Councillor Donovan

Carried




6. Hearing of Submissions Ngā Tāpaetanga

Secretarial note: Elizabeth Graham was unable to attend the Hearing to speak to the Hearings Panel but provided supporting documentation (Attachment A).

The Hearings Panel received presentations from the following submitters:

- Anne Scott for Spokes Canterbury
- Mary O'Brien for CCS Disability Action
- Callum Ward, Chairperson of Waihoru Spreydon-Cashmere-Heathcote Community Board
- Katrina Biggs and Dianne Landy for Mana Wāhine Kōrero (Attachment B)
- Don Babe (Attachment C)
- Joanna Gould.

Attachments

- A Elizabeth Graham - supporting material [⇒](#) 
- B Mana Wahine Kōrero - supporting material [⇒](#) 
- C Don Babe - presentation [⇒](#) 

7. Consideration and Deliberation Ngā Whaiwhakaaro me Ngā Taukume o Ngā Kōrero

The Hearings Panel considered the written and verbal submissions received and additional information provided by submitters and Council Officers.

Council Officers Claire Appleby-Phillips, Manager Community Planning and Projects and Ellen Cavanagh, Senior Policy Analyst, returned to the table to respond to questions raised by the Hearings Panel.

The Hearing adjourned in order provide time for staff to compile further information requested by the Panel.

The Hearing adjourned at 10.33 am and reconvened at 9.30am on Monday 11 December 2023.

The Hearings Panel continued deliberations, noting Council Officer answers to Panel questions (Attachment A).

The following Council Officers returned to the table to respond to questions raised by the Hearings Panel:

Claire Appleby-Phillips - Manager Community Planning and Projects
Ellen Cavanagh - Senior Policy Analyst
Elizabeth Neazor – Manager, Legal Service Delivery
David Bailey – Manager Recreation and Sports Services
Megan Pearce – Manager Hearing and Council Support

Attachments

- A Equity and Inclusion Hearings Panel – Answers to Panel Questions [⇒](#) 

8. Hearings Panel Recommendations Ngā Tūtohu o Te Tira Tauaki

After deliberation, the Hearings Panel made the following recommendations:

Hearings Panel Resolved BLHP/2023/00021

Part A


That the Council:

1. Revokes the following policies:
 - a. Ageing Together Policy 2007
 - b. Children's Policy 1998
 - c. Community Van Policy 1990
 - d. Early Childhood Education Policy 1998
 - e. Equity and Access for People with Disabilities Policy 2001
 - f. Social Wellbeing Policy 2000
 - g. Winning Women Charter Policy 1995
 - h. Youth Policy 1998.
2. Adopts the Equity and Inclusion Policy 2023 in its final form as set out in **Attachment A**.
3. Approves that staff are otherwise authorised to correct any typographical errors and to make minor changes to the Policy.
4. Prioritises an assessment of public Community Board and Council meeting rooms and processes to identify barriers to inclusion and participation, and reports to Council by 30 June 2024 with recommendations.
5. Notes the concerns raised in submissions around engagement and access to Council information, and considers whether additional budget is needed in the Long Term Plan to enable participation.

Councillor Harrison-Hunt/Councillor Donovan

Carried

Attachments

- A Draft Equity and Inclusion Policy 

Hearing concluded at 10.47am.

CONFIRMED THIS 7 DAY OF APRIL 2024

COUNCILLOR SARA TEMPLETON

CHAIRPERSON