

INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ICAC) MEETING REPORT

Meeting held on Thursday, 04 June 2026

Attendance - Members

Members

Councillor Vera Dirou	Townsville City Council
Councillor Liam Mooney	Townsville City Council (<i>departed meeting at 10.30am</i>)
Carmen Delany	Wellways, Suicide Prevention Northern Qld
Jeremy Audas	Community Representative
Brenda Harris (proxy)	Guide Dogs Queensland
Julie Luke	Sailability Townsville
Julie McTaggart	Community Representative
Lisa Paull/Vicki Trevanion	Townsville Region Committee on the Ageing Inc (TROCTA)
Maddie Bleakley (proxy)	Unique Partnership
Sandi Kyaw/Tra Nyguen	Townsville Multicultural Support Group (TMSG)

Attendance - Others

Donna Jackson	Advisory Committee Meeting Facilitator/Principal Inclusive Communities
Chris Jensen	Senior Social Planner
Emma Muller	Coordinator Protocol & Events
Helene James	Senior Community Development Officer
Julie Payten	representing Community Hubs

Apologies and Leave of Absence

Apologies received

Aaron Loveday	Unique Partnership
Hasif Ahmad	Townsville Islamic Society
Jonathan Hall	Guide Dogs Queensland (proxy attending)
Kim Magee	Community Representative
Liam McMahon	Neuro-Affirmative Youth Groups

Not in attendance

Alan Marlowe	Queensland Council for LGBTI Health
Taileah Watson	Yumba-Meta Ltd

Acknowledgement of Country

The Advisory Committee Facilitator provided the Acknowledgement of Country.

Confirmation of Quorum

The Advisory Committee Meeting Facilitator confirmed quorum present.

Confirmation of previous meeting, Meeting Report

The Committee confirmed Meeting Minutes for 04 December 2025 and 05 March 2026

Disclosure of Interests

Nil declarable conflicts of interest or prescribed conflicts of interest declared.

Matters reviewed and Advisory Committee's feedback/recommendations.

1. Presentations

- a) **Events for Everyone** - Coordinator Protocol & Events (Townsville City Council) returned to the Advisory Committee presenting accessible features for the upcoming Eco-Fiesta 2026. The Advisory Committee recognised the valuable advancements made by Council and provided feedback on opportunities relating to future events.
- b) **Neighbours Everyday** - Senior Community Development Officer (Townsville City Council) presented information on Council's Neighbours Everyday program of work. The Advisory Committee recognised the valuable work by Council and provided feedback on opportunities relating to the project.

2. Agenda Items

- a) **Migration, Integration, Inclusion Forum** - Members of the Forum Working Group - Julie Payten representing Community Hubs/co-lead for Forum Working Group, and Julie McTaggart, Advisory Committee member, provided an update on the planning of the Forum, advising proposed date for Forum, 06 August.
- b) **Continuation of ICAC Members identified areas of interest** - item deferred to future meeting.
- c) **Recommendation for consideration to Council - Inclusive & Accessible Events Framework**

The Advisory Committee is responsible for providing advice that informs the development of recommended courses of action for Council consideration in relation to matters that support Townsville being a liveable, accessible and inclusive city for all people.

Since the commencement of the current Advisory Committee term, Members identified increasing participation and attendance at Council-delivered events for people with diverse access and inclusion needs as a key opportunity focus area.

From these conversations and process of a flying minute dated 15/6/2026, the Advisory Committee reached consensus on the following Recommendation for consideration to Council.

Recommendation for consideration to Council: That Council consider developing an Inclusive & Accessible Events Framework, bringing a locally relevant approach to enhancing accessibility and inclusiveness within Council-delivered events.

In support of this recommendation, the Advisory Committee identified the following:

- An Accessible and Inclusive Events Framework would support Council to continue to deliver a welcoming, equitable, and consistent event experiences for all community members, while strengthening compliance, community participation, organisational capability, and alignment with best practice accessibility standards.
- The goal of the framework is to provide a clear, consistent, and agile planning and delivery approach for Council events, creating a stronger sense of belonging and community connection by way of improving event experiences for residents and visitors to our City.
- A co-designed approach to build a place-based Townsville-relevant framework, where local needs and experienced experiences, combined with leading and emerging practices are applied, would be recommended. This approach may involve reviewing, adopting, or adapting existing leading practices (such as the Queensland Government Accessible Events Guidelines), alongside conversations with community.
- Demonstrates Council's leadership and commitment to accessibility, inclusion, human rights and social equity aligning with liveability and community wellbeing outcomes; and
- Can assist with reducing reputational and operational risks associated with inaccessible events, and managing stakeholder expectations (i.e. community, council delivery capacity, budget forecasting planning).

Confirmation of Next Meeting

Thursday, 03 September 2026, 9am-11am. Agenda submissions closing date, 06 August 2026.

Close of Meeting

The Chair, Councillor Vera Dirou, closed the meeting at 11.00am.

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- supporting Council decision-making; and
- capturing community views.

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Attachment 1: Inclusive Communities Advisory Committee = Agenda Submission and Action Register 2025-2028 (Updated or open items only)

Action Item No.	Agenda Submission / Meeting Action	Item	Action to be taken	Advisory Committee Meeting date	Responsible Officer	Outcome
6	Agenda submission: Immigration/Integration/Inclusion (ICAC Member submission)	For discussion - Integration of migrants within communities, data and systemic issues.	Meeting agenda item for March 2026	5/3/2026	TCC Senior Social Planner	Presentation occurred at ICAC meeting 05 March 2026. 5/3/2026 Meeting Action: ICAC members will continue out of meeting discussions regarding ideas raised within the meeting. 6/6/2026 Agenda item to update members on progress/status.
7	Meeting Action	Migration, Integration, Inclusion Forum	ICAC members assistance with identifying connections for the Forum - please send through to Julie Payten.	6/6/2026	ICAC members	
8	Meeting Action	Recommendation to Council for consideration - Inclusive & Accessible Framework	Email proposed wording to ICAC members for review and feedback to Meeting Facilitator, timeframe for feedback will be identified within the outgoing email.	6/6/2026	ICAC Meeting Facilitator	
9	Meeting Action	Recommendation to Council for consideration - Inclusive & Accessible Framework	Post feedback, final wording of recommendation to Council for Consideration vote to occur by flying minute email, timeframe for feedback will be identified within the outgoing email.	6/6/2026	ICAC Meeting Facilitator	