



Meeting Minutes

HMinfo Advisory Committee Meeting

9 June 2022

3-4 pm

Zoom

Welcome, Introduction, Attendance & Apologies

Konstantina Vasilakopoulou opened the meeting at 3.00pm.

Attending via Zoom

Prof Catherine Bridge (CB)	Home Modification Information Clearinghouse (HMinfo)
Deborah Hammond (DH)	Occupational Therapy Australia (OTA)
Douglas McDonald (DM)	National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)
Susan Dinley (SD)	Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA)
Andrew Chia (AC)	Assistive Technology Australia (ATA)
Nicholas Loder (NL)	NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC)

Apologies

Anthony Ryan (AR)	Young Care (YC)
Julian Werrett (JW)	3 Bridges Community
Lyndal Millikan (LM)	iCare
Matthew Hilder (MH)	Wesley Mission
George Latter (GL)	Bunnings
David Clarke (DC)	Paraquad
Irene Stein (IS)	National Seniors Australia (NSA)
Frank Riggio (FR)	A1 Building Solutions NSW
Suzette Skobier (SS)	Australian Government Department of Health (DOH)
David Sinclair (DS)	Assistive Technologies Suppliers Australia (ATSA)
Greg Killeen (GK)	Spinal Cord Injuries Australia (SCIA)
Karen Appleby (KA)	Council on Ageing NSW (COTA)
Hayley Stone (HS)	Physical Disability Council of NSW (PDCN)
Cheryl Slade (CS)	Lifetime Support SA
Steve Pretzel (SP)	Technology for Ageing and Disability WA (MOD.A)
Katie Hammill	3 Bridges Community
Annette Hanly (AH)	SCOPE Home Access

Chair

Konstantina Vasilakopoulou Home Modification Information Clearinghouse (HMinfo)

Minute Taker

Victoria Wachter Home Modification Information Clearinghouse (HMinfo)

Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes from 10 March 2022 meeting were approved by the Committee members.

Follow up actions from 10 March 2022 meeting:

- i. Hminfo website chatbot: A survey to be circulated amongst the ACM with questions on their chatbot preferred functions and appearance (completed).
- ii. Circulate the CHSP SSD provider factsheet to ACM (completed).

1. HMinfo Website

Action

1.1 HMinfo Website Report

The Advisory Committee members were informed of the HMinfo's website visibility in period since last meeting.

This included:

- Location of main audience (NSW and VIC lead states)
- Top 10 reads (top read 'Arranging HM Consumer factsheet')
- Top 10 downloads (top download 'Ramps')

Advisory Committee questioned the date of the top publications (specifically in relation to 'Regulatory Requirements for Controlling Water Temperature in Bathrooms') and whether any amendments made since publication. Discussed policy for reviewing publications (5 years), however this is difficult with staffing constraints and other priorities. Will be a focus with greater staff capacity from now.

1.2 HMinfo Website Development

Chatbot:

Chatbot survey results discussed – including preferred icons ('chat' icon), time before chatbot 'pops up' on website (5 seconds), whether chatbot should suggest information or wait for user input (suggest).

KV demonstrated chatbot prototype. Chatbot is being refined to guide users to more specific areas of site (OTs, builders, DIY resources etc.) Will be ready by mid-June.

Microsite for consumers:

Will be next step in website development. Co-development with people with disabilities.

Videos:

Five short videos being developed (each one min in length). Two scripts delivered to media company. First video expected to be ready mid/end July.

Advisory Committee agreed producing a video on the Clearinghouse itself would be a good idea.

Discussion around whether one voice (female) should be used for all videos, or whether a male voice should be used for some of the videos for 'inclusivity'.

Suggestion that videos could be linked to QR codes.

KV: Follow up on producing video about clearing house.

KV: Follow up about possible use of QR Code

2. Publications and Research Activities

Action

2.1 HMInfo Publications

a) Current

- i. Industry Factsheet: Home automations for older people and people with mobility limitations

b) Future

- i. Consumer Factsheet: Lifts for existing homes (KV has written about 70% and will seek further advice from OTs before publication).

2.2 Grant Applications

- a) Washbasins for wheelchair users project extended until end of June 2023. Difficulty in recruiting wheelchair using participants.
- b) Clearinghouse funded extended for another year (end of June 2023)

3. Events & Training

- a) Aged and Community Care Reform Conference (27-28 July 2022)

4. Governance & Administration

- a) Victoria Wachter commenced in Home Modification Information Clearinghouse.
- b) Interviewing for position in livability lab (funded from research infrastructure grant)

5. Other Business

- a) HMInfo mentioned in very positive light in Research Report 'Communities of Practice: Getting to the Heart of Workplace Learning, Sharing and Innovation'.
- b) CB contributed 2 entries in the Encyclopedia of Gerontology and Population Aging on SpringerLink (Home Modification; Home Equity Conversion)
- c) HMInfo mentioned in article in *The Conversation* "From glasses to mobility scooters, 'assistive technology' isn't always high-tech.

6. Reports from Committee Members

Action

NL

- Interested in the role of access consultants in class 2 or class 1 dwelling. Have OTs seen an increase in access consultants involved in interiors of new dwellings, or increasingly involved in home modifications? CB: Depends on background of access consultant/ relationship between developer and access consultant / size of development (aged care village etc). Low uptake in HM in individuals, access consultants tend to be about compliance. DM: no trends noticed at NDIA.
- New Building Bill coming out – licencing requirements for ‘regulated work’. E.g. water-proofers will need to be licensed. Advisory Committee might need to review bill when it comes out in draft form to assess implications on HM.

HMInfo to review Bill in draft form when released. NL to send when released.

DH

- DH involved in safety reviews for developers. Currently doing a build-to-rent complex in Alexandria. An interior designer and access consultant both involved in project.

SD

- Discussion around which portfolio DVA will now fall under (given no longer its own portfolio). KV to follow up with Jonathan Levy.

KV to follow up with Jonathan Levy to find out where DVA sits.

AC

- Received two requests from OTs wanting to do access consulting course.
- ILC mainly working from office. More work coming up and will be shared in due course.

DM

- NDIA BRM temporarily shelved until later this year. Around August will be releasing minor Home Modification guidelines where quotes will no longer be needed, but an OT will come up with statement of need. Minor modifications will be classed as \$20K or under, be non-structural in nature. Will encompass 80% of participants modifications needs. 10% of builders fee retained.

Close

Konstantina closed the meeting at 4.20 pm.

Next Advisory Committee Meeting 8 September 2022