



## Meeting Minutes

### HMinfo Advisory Committee Meeting

8 December 2022

3pm

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)
David Sinclair (DS)	Assistive Technologies Suppliers Australia (ATSA)
Douglas McDonald (DM)	National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)
Annette Hanly (AH)	SCOPE Home Access
Nicholas Loder (NL)	NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC)
Susan Dinley (SD)	Occupational Therapy Australia (OTA)

#### Apologies

Anthony Ryan (AR)	Young Care (YC)
David Clarke (DC)	Paraquad
Deborah Hammond (DH)	Occupational Therapy Australia (OTA)
Frank Riggio (FR)	A1 Building Solutions NSW
Greg Killeen (GK)	Spinal Cord Injuries Australia (SCIA)
Irene Stein (IS)	National Seniors Australia (NSA)
Karen Appleby (KA)	Council on Ageing NSW (COTA)
Katie Hammill (KH)	3 Bridges Community
Lyndal Millikan (LM)	iCare
Matthew Hilder (MH)	Wesley Mission
Peter Minogue (PM)	3 Bridges Community
Robyn Chapman (RC)	Assistive Technology Australia (ATA)
Steve Pretzel (SP)	Technology for Ageing and Disability WA (MOD.A)
Hayley Stone (HS)	Physical Disability Council of NSW (PDCN)
Jonathan Levy (JL)	Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA)

#### Chair

Konstantina Vasilakopoulou Home Modification Information Clearinghouse (HMinfo)

#### Minute Taker

Victoria Wachter Home Modification Information Clearinghouse (HMinfo)

## 1. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising

Action

### 1.1 Approval of Minutes from 8 September 2022

Minutes were approved by the Committee members.

### 1.2 Follow up actions from 8 September 2022 meeting:

- Thank you to DS and NL for information sent after previous meeting.
- Thank you to HS for her assistance in searching for participants for research studies.

### 1.3 Membership Update

KV to take over admin role for next few months as VW leaving HMinfo.

## 2. HMinfo Website

### 2.1 HMinfo Website Report

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

This included:

- Location of main audience (primarily NSW, VIC, QLD, SA and some US States)
- Top 10 reads (top read 'Arranging HM Consumer factsheet' once again. Also a new interest in bathrooms this quarter)
- Top 10 downloads (top download 'Ramps')
- Discussion around bidets and problems with ignoring Australian plumbing standards (SD).
- KV suggested that HMinfo able to review/focus our research to cater for relevant issues (willing to take suggestions from committee member)

### 2.2 HMinfo Website Development

#### Videos:

We have finished 3 videos – in our YouTube and uploading to HMinfo website.

#### Microsite for consumers:

Helmut is currently working on this.

#### Links to Webinars:

We are creating a page on HMinfo website with links to free webinars in response to demand from participants in SSD Communities of Practices forum.

### 3. Publications and Research Activities

#### 3.1 HMinfo Publications

Action

##### Recent

- ‘Activities, Participation, Accessibility and Safety in the Home Environment for Children and Young People with Physical Disabilities A Systematic Review’ – almost ready.
- Infographic for 20 years of HMinfo
- Fourth video ready mid-January

##### Future

Consumer Factsheet: Staying safe during a flood

#### 3.2 Other Projects

##### Translations:

Deliverables for 2023 will change slightly. CHSP requires us to produce culturally and linguistically diverse resources. We will be translating 3 popular fact sheets, along with our five videos, into four different languages (Greek, Italian, Chinese, Arabic).

Discussion about translation quotes. Different options for video:

1. Voice and subtitle translation (\$25K)
2. Subtitles only (\$9K)

KV requested committee provide feedback about which translating option the best.

Suggestion that subtitle progressed first, with evaluation of which videos receiving most attention before proceeding to voice translation.

Discussion around translations services. Suggestion to approach SBS as a community service.

##### SSD Communities of Practice:

We have been participating in SSD Communities of Practices. Benefit in making Clearinghouse more widely known to providers, and able to listen to providers about challenges in aged care environment.

##### Washbasins for wheelchair users project:

Extended until the end of June 2023. More participants in the lab next year. Request for Committee to help recruit participants

**Approach SBS regarding translation (as a community-focussed organisation) KV**

#### 3.3 Participation in events

- KV participated in ‘UNSW Ageing Futures Institute Falls Event: Developing a Holistic Falls Prevention Program’
- BE Research Forum (November)
- UNSW Disability Innovation Institute Associates Event (Dec)

## Other Business

- HMinfo had a meeting with NDIA (Renata Morello – Director of Research Services). NDIA has no funds for research.
- HMinfo has emailed the Department of Health and Aged Care Ministers in relation to our funding. Little success in obtaining meetings yet.
- DS suggested that HMinfo put in a submission to the NDIS legislative review.
- HMinfo is discussing a collaboration with RACE for 2030 (industry-led cooperative research centre established in 2020 with \$68.5M of Commonwealth funding). Particularly interested in older people and people with disability, and our experience in research translation.

## Action

**HMinfo (KV) to put in NDIS legislative review submission.  
DS to work with HMinfo.**

## 6. Reports from Committee Members

### DS

- A lot happening in TGA area, second hand goods and right to repair, replacement parts.
- Healthcare sector given quarantine to work out how to handle medical devices.
- CB requested DS let HMinfo know about anything relevant that arises (home modifications, smart tech etc.)
- DS has announced retirement (1 July 2023).

### NL

- After assessment from a number of external government agencies, LAHC is reviewing access to home modifications – specifically can they remove restriction of OTs from majority of modifications.
- EIE review of housing sector – too much detail and reliance on legislation rather than silver, gold, platinum. Up for review by planning sector.
- NL attended 'Release from Hospital into Homes' seminar. Wait for home modifications is lengthy. Favours those who own/live in home. A financial issue. NL send Summer Foundation slide pack.

**NL to send Summer Foundation slide pack to HMinfo.**

### AH

- Inundated with referrals. Wait times increasing.
- Home modification OT forums – become apparent that many other home medication services are frequently closing portal to MyAgedCare sector of referrals.
- CB questioned whether data being collected on closure of portals/wait times. Discussion around what data government collects on this (who is missing out, what impact having on outcomes).

**SD**

- NDIS has given people choice, control and opportunities they wouldn't otherwise have had. However, a lot are not clinically required. Has also impacted other funding bodies through 'double dipping'.
- OTs making unsuitable recommendations due to little knowledge of home modifications.
- Discharge planning very poor, with people leaving hospitals when they shouldn't be, or people still in hospital due to delays in home modifications.

**DM**

- Discussion around discharge planning. Used to be led by a senior OT, but now left to junior/community OT or nursing staff who have a focus on bed emptying and medical management.
- Regarding 'double dipping', DS highlighted that there is supposed to be collaboration between different bodies. Acknowledgement that some cases 'slipping through cracks'.
- From DS perspective OTs are overwhelmed and consumers experiencing length delays in getting OT assessments. NDIS has highlighted this to OTA and want industry bodies to take ownership over a lot of this, including training and qualifications.
- Minor home mods budgets launched. Gone well from agency perspective. About 79% of NDIS home modifications are under \$20k.
- NDIS now working on complex space. Advocating for project management in complex home mods.
- DS has a document (nicknamed the 'onion') which is a multilayered approach to finding registered builders/required insurance/down to legislative level. Sits internally in system, but DS view should be made external. CB requested DS share document with HMInfo. DS to find out of any issues in releasing document. **DS to check if he can share document. To send to HMInfo if possible.**
- Discussion around conflict of interest in appointing construction

**Close**

CB closed the meeting at 4.40 pm.

**Next Advisory Committee Meeting 9 March 2023**