



## Advisory Committee Minutes

**www.homemods.info**

### Meeting of the HM Information Clearinghouse Advisory Committee

1 Sept 2011

At 2.30 p.m.

Dean's Meeting Room

Level 5, Red Centre West Wing,

The Faculty of the Built Environment

University of NSW

#### Present

Roslyn Barlow	Scope Access
Robyn Chapman	ILC NSW
David Gonzalez	Lifetime Care
Margaret Kay	LGSA
Nicholas Loder	NSW Housing
Steven Malvern	HMMS State Council
Rebecca Rogers	DVA - Dialling in (02) 9213 7347

#### Apologies

Lisa Langley	COTA
Ian Maxwell	Wesley HMMS
Sandra Lightfoot-Collins	HMMS
Shalla Thomas	HMMS
Wendy Noller	ADHC
Susan Dinley	DVA (Rebecca Rogers attending)
Stacey Sheppard-Smith	HMMS State Council
Lesley Radbron	Lifetime Care
Ruth Robinson	PCDNSW

#### Chair

A/P Catherine Bridge, UNSW

#### Note taker

Rachel Walls

*Notes*

*Actions*

**1. Welcome, introduction & apologies**

CB opened the meeting at 2.35 p.m. Apologies were noted.

Minutes from March 2011 tabled and accepted by NL, DG.

Minutes from the last meeting tabled, some amendments required. CB requests revisions. Reb R suggests confusion between herself and Ruth R (RR). Clarification required. Minutes will be reviewed and resubmitted.

No additions to the proposed agenda.

## 2. Clearinghouse update

Webstats:

Webstats report tabled.

CB discusses visitor and returning visitor trends, these are ok.

*MK joins meeting at 14:42*

CB discusses Country and State trends, which are similar. Mobile device use is going up, particularly iPhone. Download trends are similar, consumer factsheets still trending strongly.

The redesign phase of the website is commencing. The faculty is releasing their new site in Drupal 7. Ours is Drupal 6.6, so we will be moving to 7 to decrease maintenance. We will be starting with the front end and working back.

We are about to sign a contract with a new developer. The faculty has contracted Vision Australia to do accessibility testing. Stylesheets of the faculty website will be used in the creation of the new HMinfo site, so we will be more closely aligned with the faculty.

## 3. Publications:

1. Landscape Modification as an Alternative to Ramps and Lifts in Homes (*paper tabled in draft*)

CB – this paper is ready for peer review. It's different to our normal methodology. Normal systematic review yielded almost no information. What has been written has no relation to accessibility, so this is the first time anyone in the world has linked it together. Paper written in partnership with Nell Rickards, landscape architect. Case studies look at typical sites and practicality/sustainability. The main outcome being that landscape solutions are more cost effective, more attractive, less stigmatizing, increase property value. The problem it presents is that unless you were aware of the possibilities, it would never get suggested. In some instances landscape solutions are inappropriate. A thorough site assessment and possibly consultation with soil engineer would be needed, for example where erosion may be an issue. The paper is about to go to peer review – any input would be useful.

Request  
input/feedback  
during review/final  
draft process

2. Follow-up efficacy post environmental modifications; a guide for clinical practice (*paper tabled in draft*)

CB - This was authored by Jenny Fishpool with assistance from ADHC. Some of the variables and consensus on best practices. The report shows a number of environmental tools are widely available. This is a preliminary work, and

all feedback would be appreciated.

### 3. User Appraisal Environmental Tool

CB – we got permission from Chris Chippendale to leverage funds for this into an ARC Linkage grant but we were not successful. Office of Ageing want to come to the party, but we are not sure of the funding amount. Our issue was that we only got one ARC assessment, there are three reviewers – it depends on the reader to pass comments for rejoinder. So they put scores forward but if no comments we can't respond and defend. Also there are issues of whether the reviewers understand the work, and if they are in direct competition. I'm meeting with Georgina on Monday. Newcastle University is working in this area from a more medical approach. They wrote a good report, HAIL review, MK & CB on review group.

Looks like ADHC & Office of Ageing will work together to get it up. NSW Planning prepared town centres planning guidelines but the pictures showed gross examples of inaccessibility. We are meeting with Minister Constance to discuss. Going with COTA & LGSA.

### 4. Home Modifications in Aboriginal Housing: an Inclusive Approach (*paper tabled in draft*)

RW discusses the difference between inclusive and universal design. Universal design is meant to be inclusive of some major perceived user groups with barriers, such as wheelchair users. Inclusive design is different because it specifically looks at barriers to use and addresses them without excluding others, and uses strong data as a basis. So the result is more open and allows engagement from a larger set of user groups. The importance is the intention of the methodology. This is applied to the user group because typical urban solutions are not appropriate given climate and situation.

CB notes that the Executive Summary and Discussion sections of this draft are not fully prepared. Feedback is required. A larger constituent of Aboriginal reviewers for the work is required, so any members with suggestions for the panel please forward these to CB/RW for inclusion.

CB – AHURI are looking at funding a CRC on Aboriginal Housing. UNSW is not bidding but we are hoping to feed into it. We particularly need reviewers from the Aboriginal community for this one so if you know anybody please let me know.

Request  
suggestions of all  
committee  
members for  
Aboriginal panel  
members to invite  
for peer review

### 5. Shower over Floor Drainage consumer factsheet (*paper tabled in draft*)

CB requests input on tabled factsheet and discussion regarding inclusion of ILC contact details (website, phone number)

Feedback to staff

We usually we only do factsheets following on from a paper. Any feedback would be good.

Feedback from all members to inform final draft

6. Demountable ramps as part of flexible housing adaptation for people with mobility impairments (*deliverables status report tabled*)

CB – this one is not a literature review as there is no literature to review. We're waiting for ethics approval, and will be interviewing suppliers and consumers. This is a small exploratory study.

#### **4. Events & Training**

##### **SOAC 2011 & GERO2011**

CB presenting at SOAC & GERO2011.

Upcoming Aust. Housing Research Conference

There is a big GERO conference coming up in Prague, CB planning to put in for that. Upcoming Universal Design conference in Norway – CB wants to put together a symposium.

Any members interested in symposium please contact CB. CB to send links to members regarding the upcoming events in question.

*SM leaves at 16:12*

CB will forward CFP to Advisory Committee

RW to send RebC copy

##### **Other Clearinghouse Projects**

##### **CAROMA MOU**

CB – we have a ten-year MOU with Caroma. We have completed a paper on future bathrooms and are doing a smaller work on flexible fittings. We're waiting on the outcome of a linkage grant, we have very positive feedback. If we get this up it will have implications for new technology development in comp sci, material sci, etc. We're also using non-standard technology such as Kinect.

##### **AHURI Papers**

CB – AHURI funding round is open. I've agreed to lead a project proposal on undersupply of aged housing.

The members discussed the new DVA national contract for equipment and minor mods.

##### **Other news**

CB – tables factsheet from Queensland WorkCover – 'References about ceiling hoists' – available online here:

[http://www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/resources/pdfs/ceilin\\_ghoists-references.pdf](http://www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/resources/pdfs/ceilin_ghoists-references.pdf)

our work is cited as the only Australian writing on the subject.

CB was asked to present on accessible living with Informa apartment conference.

RebR & MK convey apologies for the next meeting.

Meeting close @ 16:50

### ***Members of Advisory Committee leaving***

SM leaves at 16:12

### ***Next Advisory Committee Meeting***

The venue for the next meeting is will be held on Thursday the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2011 at the Faculty of The Built Environment, University of NSW.