



Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting of the HMinfo Advisory Committee

19 September 2019

At 3.00 p.m.

Room 4035, L4, Red Centre West Wing, BE Faculty, UNSW

Welcome, Introduction, Attendance & Apologies

Professor Catherine Bridge opened the meeting at 3.00pm.

Attending in person

Susan Dinley (SD)	Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA)
Konstantina Vasilakopou (KV)	Home Modification Information Clearinghouse (HMinfo)
Lyndal Millikan (LM)	iCare

Attending via Zoom

Annette Hanly (AH)	SCOPE Home Access
Angela Peri (AP)	Wesley Mission
Karen Appleby (KA)	Council on Ageing NSW (COTA)
Alice Wilmshurst (AW)	Physical Disability Council of NSW (PDCN)
Deborah Hammond	Occupational Therapy Australia (OTA)
Nicholas Loder	NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC)
Agnieska Kuna (AK)	Domiciliary Equipment Services South Australia (DES SA)
David Clark	Paraquad

Apologies

Megan Roach (MR)	Australian Government Department of Health (DOH)
Kersi Vajifdar (replace LD)	National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)
Irene Stein (IS)	National Seniors Australia (NSA)
Donna Dives (replace MH)	National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)
Steve Pretzel (SP)	Technology for Ageing and Disability WA (TADWA and MODA)
Anthony Ryan (AR)	Young Care (YC)
Robyn Chapman (RC)	Assistive Technology Australia (ATA)
Greg Killeen	Spinal Cord Injuries Australia (SCIA)
Suzette Skobier	Australian Government Department of Health (DOH)
Julian Werrett (JW)	3 Bridges Community

Chair

Prof Catherine Bridge (CB)	Home Modification Information Clearinghouse (HMinfo)
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Minute Taker

Vincent D'cruz (VDC)	Home Modification Information Clearinghouse (HMinfo)
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Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes from 19 September 2019 Meeting were approved after accepting minor amendments to Lyndall's narration.

Follow up actions:

- (i) DH to provide input for mental health for literature for Industry Factsheet – Home Modifications for people with aggressive or self-injurious behaviour
- (ii) VDC to send Wash Basin and AHURI AT flyers to AK and DC
- (iii) LM to send the Fire Report to VDC for circulation to members

1. HMinfo Website

Action

1.1. HMinfo Website Report

The HMinfo Website Report was included in the Advisory Committee Member's Package for review and comments. No queries were raised.

1.2 HMinfo Website Progress

Accessibility/Usability

- Work on hold subject to funding from NDIA or other sources to address accessibility and usability issues raised by PDCN and Vision Australia.

Website Manual Update

- 70% completed at this point in time and expected to achieve 100% completion by the end of November 2019.

Helmut

1.3 Website Development next 3 months (Oct to Dec 19)

The web development proposed includes:

- Real Time Report Progress – creating a progress bar to indicate that a report from HMinfo website is being generated by a user.
- Liveability App – was disabled in Google Play because it did not comply with required standards. App being rebuilt based on Android version and expected to be completed by Aug 19

Helmut

Helmut

2. Publications and Research Activities

Action

2.1 HMinfo Publications

a. Evidence based research: Designing home environment for people who experience problems with cognition and who display aggressive or self-injurious behavior 2nd Ed.

STATUS: published in June 2019

b. Consumer Factsheet: Bidet douche seats, flexible hoses and bidets

STATUS: updated publication published in September 2019

c. Summary Bulletin / Industry or Consumer Factsheet: Assistive Technology on Smart Controls

STATUS: planned publication for 2020

d. Consumer and Industry Factsheet – Home environment considerations for people with self-injurious and/or aggressive behaviour

STATUS: currently updating 1st edition

DH to provide inputs about mental health for literature.

2.2 Grant Applications

The following grant applications were made in the last quarter:

- a. Disabled Peoples and Families Organisations – ILC
Readiness Grant Round 2018-19 (NDIS) Livability App Mark 2
- b. Commonwealth Home Support Program Innovation Funding –
Expression of Interest Stage One (GO2108) [to replace the 23%
funding HMinfo lost from FACS shutting down]

3. Events & Training

3.1 Conferences / Symposiums / Congress

a. AHURI Conference in Darwin

CB said that the disability housing stream was mostly concerned with SDA accommodation and a number of presentations were concerned that the category of robust housing as set out in the draft SDA guidelines was very difficult to interpret and implement.

b. Special Studies Program

CB scheduled meetings in the UK (UCL) and US (Buffalo State University and University of Milwaukee) to explore potential collaboration on grant application and research.

CB to share proposal for an International Person-Environment Living Lab Collaboration.

4. Governance & Administration

4.1. Governance

Team undertaking ongoing Google Ad Grants strategy to implement and review effectiveness of keywords and Ad Campaigns to enhance website visibility.

4.2 HMinfo Annual Report July 2018-June 2019

Team currently working on draft report.

5. EBEP Funded Projects

5.1 Australian Research Council's (ARC) LIEF scheme

Develop methods to produce accessible PDFs, and generating functional requirements for triple peer review module.

5.2 GWA / Caroma: Under basin clearances for wheelchairs

In active recruitment for participants to volunteer in research.

VDC send the flyer to DC.

5.3 AHURI – AT for ageing and disabled housing

Organising focus group sessions to obtain input for project.

VDC send the flyer to AK

6. Reports from Committee Members

Action

DH

Mentioned about Property Council and SDA process, that it has been completed and report presented to NDIA. For accessible housing, there is a need to get the spatial correct before people move into the accommodation. Another issue was the height of the toilet pan, which needs to be performance solution. AT Australia managed to get support from Access Consultants in relation to this matter.

NL

Highlighted changes in BCA for all housing. They have been taking questions in relation to home mods from OTs. Mentioned that OTs were not completing the summary page on reports submitted to help expedite action through easy read of the overall problem. There seems to be an increasing request for scooters to have access into the house rather than parking on the verandah / car port which is safer. There have been requests made for padded wall for autistic children.

AH

Informed the committee that extra financing from the aged care sector has declined and impacted ScopeAccess. They will still provide subsidy to clients for security related home modifications, e.g. screen doors, locked key boxes, security camera, etc.

AP

Brought to the committee's attention that Wesley had some funding changes in the last couple of weeks with regards to servicing clients for home modifications. There is still funding for clients in inner west and Western Sydney, but no funding for OT assessment.

AD

Spoke about their efforts to secure ongoing funding and currently submitting an application to the Ageing and Disability Commissioner who is doing a review of advocacy organisations.

DC

Mentioned Para Quad is currently working closely with NDIS to ensure things function well. However, the over 65 remains a hot topic. There has been a petition started out of Kiama about a 67 year old man who fell and became a quadriplegic and was denied funding from NDIS. Received a letter from the Royal Commission stating that a DRC (Disability Royal Commission) was being established and would be contacting several organisations to obtain information.

KA

Said a submission had been made last week to the Queensland Department of Transport and Roads in relation to consultation about a national framework for motorized and other mobility equipment. Looking at all the different parameters around motorized and electric mobility equipment, and reviewing the various options around getting the vehicle licensed and regulated.

LM

Spoke about home smoke alarms that are connected to home monitoring companies. Working with Mitch Board in Victoria and helping one of their clients who was burnt and suffered third degree burns to the body and suffering high levels of anxiety around fire and fire safety. There was a report produced on the number of fatalities as a result of house fires. Suggested drafting a Consumer Factsheet for older people or people with disability and their carers. Also suggested for Councils to subsidise the cost of installing smoke fire alarms and having it connected to home monitoring companies.

SD

Informed the committee that their major home mods contract is on hold because of their main suppliers is under ACCC investigation. There are 4 major service providers and one of which is under investigation. As such, DVA had to close the tender and do it again. There was the intention to merge the minor and major home mods under one contract.

Close

- Professor Catherine Bridge closed the meeting at 4.30pm.

Next Advisory Committee Meeting 5 December 2019