



The University of Sydney
Faculties of Health Sciences and Architecture
**The Home Modification:
Information Clearinghouse Project**

Advisory Committee Minutes

www.homemods.info

Meeting of the HMM Information Clearinghouse Advisory Committee

24th August 2006

At 3.00 p.m.

**Deans meeting room,
The Faculty of Architecture
University of Sydney**

Present

Catherine (Katy) Bridge (Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Sydney)
Peter Phibbs (Faculty of Architecture, University of Sydney)
Anne Reeve (South Coast Home Modification & Maintenance Service)
Ian Maxwell (Orange HMMS)
Jane Bringolf (Independent Living Centre of NSW)
Melinda Paterson (HACC Development Officer, Sutherland)
Robyn Chapman (Physical Disability Council of NSW)
Brendon Gembritsky (DADHC)
Toni Adams (DADHC)

Apologies

Steve Malvern (NSW Statewide Home Modification Service)
Stacey Sheppard-Smith (Aged & Community Services Association of NSW & ACT)
Rebecca Rodgers (NSW Department of Veterans Affairs)
Joe Harrison (Disability Council of NSW)

Chair

Catherine (Katy) Bridge (Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Sydney)

Note taker

Catherine (Katy) Bridge

Notes

Actions

1. Welcome, introduction & apologies

Katy opened the meeting at 3.00 p.m. Apologies were noted.

2. Minutes from the last meeting

No one noted error and the group moved to accept the minutes as they stood.

Minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting

3. Clearinghouse update

Webstats:

Katy provided a summary of the web statistics for the period from May, 23, 2006 till August 21, 2006. The number of page views to date is 66,102 whilst Total Visitors numbers are 10,620. In the period May 06 to Aug 06 there were 41 countries accounting for 10% of the traffic with the US (33 visitors, 2%), Hong Kong (22 visitors, 1.39%), UK (18 visitors, 1.13%), Canada (11 visitors, 0.69%), & NZ (10 visitors, 0.63%) accounting for the most traffic. Nevertheless 90% of visitors over this period were Australian with NSW accounting for 65%.

See attached report

Website relaunch

Katy reported that the new beta version of the clearinghouse website was officially launched at the World Federation of Occupational Therapy's 14th World Congress in July where there were 3,000 Occupational Therapists from around the Globe. The major sponsor of the Congress was HACC and as a result the redesigned HMinfo website was launched by Judy Harwood as Acting Director of the NSW HACC unit. on the 25th July. Janet Milligan Head of the NSW HACC launched the Dementia Capital Works Principles the same day. In addition the clearinghouse featured in Linda Burney welcome address plus two papers on systematic reviews and a poster were presented during the congress. Melinda provided feedback that the new website was easier to use, while Anne suggested it would be good if Occupational Therapists involved in Home Modifications could be listed

All to test and provide feedback on beta website prior to shutdown of the old website at the end of November.

Katy to get permission to include ACAT info.

Systematic Review Updates

Katy reported that the grabrail orientation series of factsheets and checklists was now complete.

Hot topic Summaries

Katy referred to the new hot topic summary on Smoke Alarms: Hard wired and unwired systems. CSIRO and the chief fire officer have reviewed this document. Feedback welcome.

See attached

Events & Training

Building Ageing Research Capacity (BARC) Colloquium

This was a one day forum sponsored by the ARC/NHMRC Research network in ageing well. A number of positioning papers on research development and communication were launched (e.g. consumer-led research, dissemination & translation of research, use of consultants, collaboration with industry) and strategic priorities including productivity, independence, healthy ageing and population research strategies

Katy to keep committee updated re developments.

Notes

agreed.

A Community for all ages: Building the future launch and recommendations

Following the June launch of the “the way forward” recommendations” the clearinghouse was approached By the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing in regard to implementing recommendation 8 e.g. ‘support mechanisms that promote environmental and industrial designs for a community for all ages’. Gerda Caunt, Director of the Active Ageing Partnerships then suggested Katy raise this with the clearinghouse Advisory Committee re National initiatives given the obvious link to clearinghouse activity and operationalisation of recommendation 8. It was unanimously agreed that a national perspective with local regional responsibility was in principle a good idea. Specifically Katy was directed to request that the Department of Health and Ageing assist with input and funding to bring together the Governmental and other State/Territory Home Modification Stakeholder groups (i.e. LGA, Housing, Health, Planning, HIA, MBA RAIA, OTAustralia, Consumer reps etc.) with a license to represent their State/Territory’s position/needs to a meeting to thrash out principles and rights/responsibilities.

HMMS Biennial Conference

The 2006 Biennial HMMS Conference is scheduled for the 4th and 5th September 2006. As HACC is the major sponsor they have a trade display spot but are unable to man it as they are simultaneously managing the HACC conference. Katy had been asked if it would be possible for the clearinghouse to take this up they were unable to fund the original trade proposal as they are not a for profit service. Brendon was unable to comment on this.

AHNUD National Housing Forum

Robyn talked about the preparations which are already well underway for this National Forum to be held in Sydney in November. The organising committee are currently looking for industry sponsors and it was suggested that the clearinghouse offer to sponsor the satchel on condition that mousemats could be included.

Other Clearinghouse Projects***Dementia design guidelines***

Katy reported that following the launch of the guidelines 25 million was set aside 1.5 million for each LGA to either refurbish or establish dementia day respite facilities under a one-off HACC Capital Grant strategy. Katy presented the guidelines to the DADHC regional officers as part of their strategic planning day.

Cost-benefit of care in the home for older persons

Katy reported that the positioning paper for was completed and was currently in peer review. The second stage is currently in progress and is due for completion in early December.

My Virtual Home project

DADHC has allocated \$40,000 to support this pilot and this project will be developed for implementation in early 2007.

Group Homes Design Guidelines Revision**Actions**

Katy and Peter proceed with Commonwealth discussions in order to progress the ideas.

Katy to follow up with Judy.

Katy to follow this up with Amelia and Judy.

Katy to continue to liase with DADHC re some post-occupancy follow-up to validate effectiveness.

Notes

The clearinghouse was approached by DADHC's Strategic asset management and procurement division re the proposed revision of its Design Standards for Group Homes. These were developed by DADHC to provide a consistent approach to ensure quality, functionality, participation, sustainability and compliance with regulatory requirements in its provision of accommodation and facilities to suit a range of their clients. Katy reported that a preliminary meeting had been held and that as a result a tender may be called.

Other business***EPPA***

The clearinghouse wrote to Gail Connolly A/Executive Director Metropolitan Planning re the proposed changes to the SEPP Seniors Living Policy. Katy reported that she had confirmation of receipt but had heard nothing more. No one else present was aware of the review outcome.

MOU between HMMS State Council and the Clearinghouse

Katy reported that State Council and the Clearinghouse had developed an MOU but that it still needed to be ratified. Shalla has agreed to meet to move the MOU forward ASAP to forestall communication problems in the future however State Council were disappointed that we launched the new website at the WFOT Congress and there was some concern that they were not appropriately acknowledged as the Home Modification and Maintenance peak in the preparation for the WFOT Congress.

Annual report

Katy reported that this was a new requirement of DADHC funding and that would be prepared with budget acquittal annually.

Arrangement with Architecture re ongoing collaboration

Peter explained that this would be his last meeting as a representative of the Faculty of Architecture as he was taking up a position of inaugural chair in urban planning at the University of Western Sydney. However in discussion with DADHC he would not be resigning but would keep his involvement with the clearinghouse. Tom Kvan the Dean of Architecture at Sydney was keen to continue to have a representative from the Faculty though and to this end Peter had set up a meeting with Tom Heneghan who was keen to establish a universal design elective for architecture.

Next Advisory Committee Meeting

The next meeting will be held on the 23rd Nov 2006 at the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Sydney.

Meeting closed at 5.00 p.m.

Actions

Katy to keep the committee updated.

Katy to follow up with Planning re SEPP outcome.

Ongoing

Ongoing