**DISABILITY WORKING GROUP**

**Key Messages November 2023**

**Easy Read Format**

Members: John Marrable (Chairperson), Adam Hall, Jacqui Eggleton, Heather Clay, Jaime Randhawa, Philippa Henderson

Standing members: William Robertson, Kathryn Harkin, Jack Devereux,

Apologies: Kirsten Dixon, Paula Waby, David Bainbridge-Zafar, Vanessa Taane, Kim Kennedy, Te Aroha Springford,

Guests: None.

The Disability Working Group members met on Friday 24 November 2023.

* John has contacted Deaf Aotearoa and is waiting to hear back from them to have a meeting about how best to work with them to support their members to request support.
* Disability Awareness Training unit is on hold at present as Southern’s “Learning and Development Team” is combining with South Canterbury. Will be considered early 2024.
* New member Philippa Henderson from Balclutha gave background about herself. Philippa is on the National Committee for People First. Wants to see people with disabilities being looked after when they come to hospital.

Reminder to all members to speak clearly and avoid jargon.

* Round Table:
* Parking a current issue in Wanaka, including accessible parking.
* Issue raised about people needing to pay privately for support at meetings.
* Health shuttle from Oamaru to Dunedin an ongoing challenge – not reliable service. Whose duty, is it to provide? St John does not have the facility currently to provide.
* Service in Dunedin – Good sometimes? Supporting people who have been discharged from hospital to ensure all services and support are in place. Possibly related to Enabling Good Lives.

Question about whether this can be extended outside of Dunedin.

* Consumer “Engagement Quality Service Marker” was completed recently.

Twice yearly all services are asked to report on their “consumer engagement activities”.

Results are needed to be sent to “Health Quality and Safety Commission” as required with “Code of Expectations”.

Self-assessment results are moderated by Community Health Council members, Disability Working Group Chair, Consumer Liaison and Consumer Experience Manager.

* Of importance to this group was the question **“Specifically for this service, which population groups have been identified as having poorer health outcomes?”.**

Response shown that not all services have a full understanding of what groups these are for their service.

Disabled consumers not usually identified as having poorer health outcomes although being a priority group.

* Also asked “**What is happening within your service to improve equitable access for the disabled community (including those with physical, sensory, intellectual, mental disabilities)?” -** responses covered a wide range with some services being involved in this area and others not.
* Physio pool – survey being run currently and closes today.

Three options available to consider,

1. full upgrade of the current pool,
2. a replacement physio pool (like for like), or
3. a new physio pool combined with café, gym, physio etc

A study is also being planned to look at these options to see if workable.