**DISABILITY WORKING GROUP**

**Key Messages November 2023**

Members: John Marrable, 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:

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 interpreters.
* Training module is on hold currently as Southern’s Learning and Development Team is merging with South Canterbury. Will be considered early next year.
* New member Philippa Henderson, Balclutha introduced 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 plainly and avoid jargon.
* Round Table
* Parking a current issue in Wanaka, including accessible parking.
* Concern raised about individuals needing to pay privately for support at meetings.
* Health shuttle from Oamaru to Dunedin an ongoing challenge – not consistent service. Whose responsibility is it? St John don’t have capacity currently.
* Service in Dunedin – Good something? 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 required to be submitted to Health Quality and Safety Commission in accordance with Code of Expectations. Self-assessment results are moderated by Community Health Council members, Disability Working Group Chair, Consumer Liaison and Consumer Experience Manager.
* Particularly relevant for this group was the tailored question **“Specifically for this service, which population groups have been identified as having poorer health outcomes?”.** Response reflected that not all services have a full understanding of what population groups these are for their service. Disabled consumers not commonly recognised as having poorer health outcomes despite 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 broad spectrum with some services actively engaged in this space and others not.
* Physio pool – survey being run currently and closes today. Three options available for consideration, full development of the current pool, a replacement hydrotherapy pool, or a new multipurpose hydrotherapy centre. A feasibility study is also being commissioned to look at options.