



Health and Wellbeing Advisory Group Meeting Deakin+ DHS (BSWR) Partnership

Monday 16th February 2009
State Government Offices, Geelong

Minutes

Co Chairs: Professor Boyd Swinburn (Professor of Population Health, and Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Obesity Prevention, Deakin University) and Ms Anne Somerville (Director - Health & Wellbeing, G21)

Present: Professor Boyd Swinburn, Ms Anne Somerville, Dr Iain Butterworth, Ms Kay Mills, Mr Chris Loughnan, Mr Grant Hamilton, Ms Anne O'Callaghan, Ms Karen Pritchard, Mr John Hedditch, Mr Andrew Scott

Apologies: Dr Michael Ackland, Mr Chad Foulkes, Ms Irene McGinnigle, Mr Peter Day, Mr John Devereaux, Ms Carol Micallef, Mr Tim Moore, Ms Juliet Williams, Ms Patti Manolis, Mr Ron Frew, Ms Libby Mears, Dr Paul Talman, Ms Chris Ferguson, Prof Evelyne De Leeuw, Mr John Fendyk.

1. Welcome and Introduction:

Prof Boyd Swinburn welcomed group members to the Health and Wellbeing advisory group meeting. Participants were invited to introduce themselves to the group.

2. Advisory Board Progress Report:

Dr Iain Butterworth welcomed and thanked attendees for their interest and ongoing participation in the Health and Wellbeing Advisory Group meetings. The Health and Wellbeing Strategy relates to the role played by the Deakin/DHS BSWR Partnership in helping to broker new and improved partnerships between stakeholders across the BSW Region to improve health, wellbeing and community capacity. Iain emphasized that the role of this Advisory Group is to help Partnership staff and core members to set priorities for 2009. Iain identified partnership engagement activity in key events including:

- **Corio Norlane Development Advisory Board (CNDAB)** The CNDAB is an overarching community governance structure for a suite of major long-term projects in Corio-Norlane. These initiatives have an estimated combined investment in the order of \$500M¹. This has been a signature area of partnership engagement in the past year with the CNDAB being encouraged to join the Healthy City Network. An application is currently in progress to join this high profile network which offers a range of benefits including best practices in Healthy City concepts and benchmarking tools. Membership of this alliance would place the CNDAB on the international stage and enhance its funding profile.
- **Armstrong Creek** is a residential/commercial development on 4,000ha of land in southern Geelong that abuts Deakin's Waurin Ponds campus.² The partnership has sought to engage Deakin staff and alerted Deakin's Vice Chancellor to this development which is being project managed by the City of Greater Geelong (COGG) and the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD). DHS and John Hedditch (Manager Regional Planning, DHS) have been involved with COGG to embed Healthy Urban principles and governance in its planning model. Andrew Scott emphasized a potential opportunity at this time for monitoring of the development and implementation of Healthy City principles.



- **Regional Managers Forum.** John Hedditch, Iain Butterworth and Andrew Scott (CEO, G21) have given several presentations to this Forum. Iain has tried to promote and share information on the Healthy Cities approach, particularly in capacity building, monitoring and evaluation, and benchmarking. John Hedditch noted the links of Healthy City concepts (e.g. liveability and sustainability) with DHS objectives to address disadvantage. There is potential for the partnership to give guidance on Health and Wellbeing principles and governance to the recently reinvigorated Regional Managers Forum. The Advisory Group encouraged the partnership to facilitate strengthening links between Deakin and the Regional Managers Forum.

3. Members' discussion on relevant Health and Wellbeing issues:

- **Anne Somerville (Director - Health & Wellbeing, G21)** emphasized some key areas on which to build knowledge, including 'early years' programs and social inclusion. Anne noted the importance of resources such as data clearinghouses and a 'Centre for Population Health' in developing a region wide approach to planning preventative health work.
- **Andrew Scott** provided a summary outline of revamped G1 Pillars. Each pillar is developing four or five priorities to become concrete projects which will be documented on the G21 website in the next few months.
- **Karen Pritchard (Manager Aged & Disability Services, COGG)** mentioned the concentrated activity across the local government sector since the recent Council elections. Councils across the region and Victoria are working to develop new Council plans and municipal public health plans.

4. Review of Terms of Reference:

The group discussed the Terms of Reference and it was felt the originally-stated aim of the Strategy, to "establish the partnership as a key player in the formulation of regional health and wellbeing initiatives by engaging with key bodies responsible for planning and policy development", was a role better suited to organisations such as G21. The group discussed a range of alternative aims for the Health and Wellbeing Strategy including:

- Working as a think tank on key planning issues by providing a source of important intellectual and social capital;
- Helping to broker engagement between key regional planning agencies;
- Helping to engage Deakin University as a key player in regional planning processes;
- Informing the development of a Centre for Population Health¹

¹ NOTE – this is being addressed through the Research and Evidence Based Practice Advisory Group



5. Priorities for the Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2009-2010

Iain noted that three 'Partnership Beacons' have been identified by the Deakin+DHS Executive to inform all four Partnership strategies in 2009. These are: Farmers Health, Corio Norlane, and Teaching and Workforce. With the preceding discussion and revised aims in mind, a new set of priorities was developed for consideration:

Strategy: Health & Wellbeing/Health and Community Services		
The Partnership works as a think tank on key planning issues by providing a source of important intellectual and social capital. The Partnership helps broker engagement between key regional planning agencies. The Partnership helps to engage Deakin University as a key player in regional planning processes		
Desired outcomes 2009		Measures
1	The Partnership helps position the BSW region as a national leader in Farmers health research, education and policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement with Western District Health Service and other key industry stakeholders to help grow the National Centre for Farmers Health Work with NCFH to host Regional Conference on farmers' health
2	Deakin University engages formally with BSW Regional Managers Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions with DPCD re most appropriate linkages with RMF RMF engagement with Deakin's Health and Wellbeing Research College Deakin engages in RMF sub-committees Deakin Pro Vice Chancellor (Rural and Regional) or nominated representative to join RMF
3	Deakin University seeks formal representation on G21 Health and Wellbeing Executive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deakin representative participates in each G21 Health and Wellbeing Executive meeting Deakin University formally participates in G21 regional planning exercises and links with the G21 health and wellbeing planning group Engagement with Deakin Health and Wellbeing Research College
4	DU+DHS engages with Greater South Coast Alliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deakin University formally participates in regional planning exercises held in Greater South Coast sub-region and links with SW and SGG PCP health and wellbeing planning groups Engagement with Deakin Health and Wellbeing Research College
5	The Partnership supports G21's application to host a Thinker in Residence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deakin and DHS provide official endorsement to proposal
6	Partnership explores engagement with Institute for Koorie Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions held with Institute for Koorie Education to map opportunities for networking, cooperation, coordination and collaboration DHS BSWR Indigenous Health worker/s participate in DU/DHS Partnership activity DU/DHS and IKE work together on one initiative



7	Partnership is a key player in supporting Deakin University's Rural and Regional Engagement Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DU+DHS Partnership Identified as key player in Rural and Regional Engagement Strategy • PVC (Rural and Regional) engages closely with DU+DHS Partnership • DHS Regional Director (Mr Jim Higgins) and Sue Kilpatrick to meet to discuss common Health and Wellbeing priority areas • Deakin University's Rural and Regional Engagement Strategy aligns with DHS agenda
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The following outcomes and measures were also mentioned; however it is argued that they fit better into the 'Research and Evidence Based Practice Strategy':

Desired outcomes 2009	Measures
The Partnership supports better engagement between the WHO Collaborating Centre for Obesity Prevention's Sentinel Site team and DHS BSWR	<p>Evidence of DHS engagement in the program's research activities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focusing resources into a defined geographical area • Community capacity building • Multi-strategy, multi-setting intervention programs • Monitoring • Evaluation • Knowledge sharing with DHS personnel
Partnership supports collaborative effort to address disadvantage at Corio-Norlane	The CNDAB / Deakin Research Partnership, formed in Feb 2009 through the efforts of the DU+DHS Partnership, identifies disadvantage as a key priority for applied research.

Next Meeting

September 2009 -- To be advised prior to meetings by Chris Loughnan (Deakin + DHS Project Officer)

¹ http://www.neighbourhoodrenewal.vic.gov.au/projects/corio_and_norlane

²

http://www.geelongcity.vic.gov.au/Services_In_Geelong/Planning/Strategic_Planning/Armsstrong_Creek_Urban_Growth_Plan/