**Enabling Good Lives (EGL)**

**MidCentral Regional Leadership Group**

**Record of the meeting held on Wednesday 5 October 2022**

**From 10.30am – 2.30pm**

**At the Distinction Coachman Hotel, Fitzherbert Avenue, PN**

**Facilitator**: Ann-Marie Stapp

**Notes:** Jo Brew

**Present:**

* Annette (Deaf Rep) (+ 2 Interpreters Sarah and Kerry)
* Martin, Wayne, Peter, Natt, Abi (Disabled People)
* Tracey, Pip, Toni I (Families)
* Rasela (Pasifika)
* Rachel (People First), Sandy (Rachel’s Meeting Assistant)
* Dion, Nadia, Rangirea, Iris (Mana Whenua)
* Eru, Toni G (Providers)
* Jen (OT)

**Apologies:**

* Lovely (Pasifika)
* Jeanette (MoE)
* Maidie (Mana Whenua)
* Gabrielle (Te Whatu Ora)
* *Jane (Te Mahau/MoE who has appointed Jeanette Brown until end October*)

**Karakia/Welcome**

The meeting was opened with karakia followed by a round of introductions.

**Matters arising from previous minutes and action points**

1. Personal budget information concerns – core groups to collate their members information and send to Pip – **no information was sent.**
2. Invitations to attend NEGL meetings sent – **4 people attending tomorrow.**
3. Policy role clarity – diagrams required to show interconnections of Whaikaha and RLG.
* Rachael B to ask Whaikaha for theirs and to provide Mana Whaikaha organisational chart.
* Ann-Marie to talk to Peter and Rachael about the local structure.
1. Terms of reference – RLG needs review, core groups need completing. Once completed documents need updating and be held in a central repository.
2. Sean was invited to attend later today; a copy of his questions was circulated previously.
3. Conference attendees still to feedback to Accessible Conference organisers.
4. Abi to invite Phil, Accessibility Tick to speak at November meeting? No follow up required – maybe better linked to core groups.
5. Abi to invite Disabled Employers Union to speak at November meeting.

**It was proposed and agreed to by the group that only 1 speaker would be invited to future meetings and clarity required about who that speaker is without compromising the meeting time.**

After discussion, it was suggested in principle, speakers from Whaikaha, or Mana Whaikaha only attend RLG meetings and other speakers go to core groups.

**Action – everyone to read/refresh the current terms of reference** (which were forwarded by Eru during the meeting).

1. Action: Rachael and Jeanette to connect re transition from high school – carried over.
2. Antnz completed a capability application for costs incurred with the Sept Expo.
3. Eru sent the providers list to Tracy.
4. Family core group to develop an action plan for solutions regarding ‘things shifting back to old processes.’
5. Funding for NZSL interpreters at Sept Expo – completed.
6. Flyers with all core group details be developed for the community – carried over.

**September Expo Update (Natt)**

* Alternative speakers needed to be arranged at the last minute.
* Large price increase as last minute due to miscommunications between PNCC and expo organisers.
* Application submitted for majority of costs to be covered by capability funding.
* Disappointing turnout (only 2 new people attended on Saturday); advertising 3 days out is not enough notice.
* Antnz will provide written report.
* 3 registrations were received from deaf people who didn’t attend, NZSL interpretation was arranged and paid for.
* 75 people were booked for Friday, it was unclear how much was received in registration fees – to be confirmed by Antnz.
* Advertising was done only 3 days out.
* Annette queried the 4 flyers she translated for video – these didn’t appear to have been used.
* The are 2 facebook pages and both look the same, this may cause confusion and affect info to the deaf community – which facebook should be used? Who is responsible for these pages? (Possibly Ally, MidCentral Disabled People?)

There are a lot of learnings to inform improvement for the next event.

**Mana Whenua – Part 1 (Dion Ponga)**

* Dion described the Mana Whenua core group as being born Māori, born or gained a disability or support a family member with disability, living within the MidCentral region, manage own customary advice, have spiritual connections to the environment encompassed through Treaty of Waitangi and Te Tiriti O Waitangi, and Tripartite.
* Shared their logo, whakatauki and waiata.
* Have applied for capability funding for promotional t shirts.
* Have applied for capability funding for hui.
* Shared the organisational structure (great example for other core groups when arranging theirs).
* Requested their 4 sub-committee core members could join at this table, (increasing the number to 7 seats).
* Some members did not agree because this is a disabled people platform group, and the group is guided by the terms of reference.

Dion requested the increase in Mana Whenua seats be considered when reviewing the terms of reference and in light of tripartite.

**Director’s Report (Rachael Burt)**

* MW is in survival mode, short staffed with 8 connectors serving disabled people at present.
* Have 6 connector vacancies and staff on stress leave, serious medical leave, covid, flu and or family leave.
* Working with crisis situations i.e., urgent discharges, working with OT and mental health around crisis situations.
* There have been additional challenges aligning recruitment requirements and processes with Whaikaha’s, appreciate the importance in getting process right from the start. Hopeful for current vacancies to be filled early 2023.
* Emails received about the positive difference EGL has made in people’s lives are very encouraging during challenging times.
* Continued support from RLG is appreciated.
* 1 October marked the 3-year anniversary of Mana Whaikaha.

**Sean Versteegh, Co-Director – 3 Big Things**

* An info/question sheet was circulated to the group before the meeting.
* Sean is a clinical psychologist, has 14 years’ experience working with disabled people and whanau (and at Explore).
* Is here today to ask what the needs regarding psychological wellbeing support in this region are, what are the challenges for getting good psychological wellbeing support and what services or supports might be of most benefit, what are the gaps and what could 3 Big Things do to support the gaps and how do they engage appropriately with the various groups around the table.

**Brainstorm**

**What are the gaps in providing positive of behaviour supports and wellbeing services?**

* 6 – 12 months wait for Explore behaviour supports
* there is an opportunity to queue jump if family whanau or providers pay
* no crisis supports
* lack of people/psychologists with disability experience
* services focus on person, not the safe supports for family and whanau
* lack of availability
* lack of income – deprivation
* wrong focus (i.e., Prader-Willi syndrome requires psychological help not focus on weight)
* lack of collaboration and integration of and difficulty working with mental health and other services
* lack of funding, availability and resourcing in methods that are accessible and cultural appropriateness
* access to SL interpreters and how they are booked for the deaf person instead of them having to organise themselves and understanding of and working with deaf culture

**How could we build some services in collab with people in the region to meet the actual needs?**

* Regular appointments and ongoing availability
* Establish good relationship with Mana Whaikaha (to become a preferred provider for family whanau or for personal budgets) – connect with Manager and Director.
* Connect with High and Complex Needs unit – Nicole Lamb (give Sean Jen’s email).

**Sean is available to meet with each core group for deeper discussions. Jo to send details to the group**

**Mana Whenua – Part 2 (Dion Ponga)**

The earlier discussion relating to increasing Mana Whenua seats at this table resumed:

* Would like to increase Mana Whenua seats to 7; if not able to what can the alternative option be and address the imbalance?
* The initial terms of reference states disabled people would have the majority.
* Representation on this level is the voice of our core groups and people of the community (not the number of seats of each group).
* Work needs to be done in making core groups bigger, not necessarily the representation in the group.
* The principle operating at this table is this is a disabled people’s platform.
* Consideration of tripartite is a new and valid consideration.
* Relationships between core groups outside of this forum is essential to teach and learn from each other.
* Voting rights – the question of equity was raised.
* Getting people engaged in the core group is a critical start to a functioning core group. The core group feeds into the RLG representation, and backwards through information sharing. Getting people to trust and understand what a good life is, without focusing on the funding is a very important message to take back to their groups and having the right people on this group for this messaging is important.

**Conclusion/Action: Take the proposal of increasing the seats back to the Mana Whenua core group and let us know if a further discussion is needed.**

**Mana Whenua Funding Application for Hui (Dion Ponga)**

* The hui application was redirected to the capability building fund.
* The t-shirt application was redirected to the capability building fund.
* It was proposed that all applications go directly to the capability building fund first, and if they don’t meet criteria or intention, will be redirected to RLG.

**The proposal was agreed to** **by all present**.

* The group was reminded to fill the application forms out as best as possible as missing information creates delays in decisions.
* Progress and final reporting outcomes are expected from all applications as this informs reporting.
* Criteria and accessible applications forms are available on the Mana Whaikaha website.
* Funding via Mana Whaikaha Ltd (MW Ltd) was clarified; various projects had been supported by surplus funds previously held by MW Ltd – this is not a guaranteed stream of funding.
* Any future surplus funds held by MW Ltd will only support smaller applications.

**Mana Whenua Representation on the Capability & Capacity Building Panel**

* Mana Whenua wish to apply for a seat on the Capability Funding Panel.
* It was agreed to defer discussion and decision making on this matter until the November meeting.

The length of future meetings was briefly discussed. Starting earlier and finishing later does not suit everyone.

The meeting closed at 2.30pm.