



Present: Sarah Gibb & Kim Cable (Community Waikato), Carol Foothead, Lisette Balsom & Nigel King (Waikato Regional Council), Dianne Burgess (Te Awamutu Health Shuttle), Marnie Goodman and Les Sinton (Tairua Care & Friendship), Desiree McKenzie (Te Kuiti Community House), Wayne Hudson & Alicia Leef (North Waikato), Bridget Burdett (Stantec), Dallas Honey (Waikato DHB), Julie Taverner & Niki Varley (St John), Tricia Dawson (Thames St John Health Shuttle), Dennis Turton & Rongo Kirkwood (Trust Waikato)

Apologies: Brent Nielsen, Age Concern and Lynette Hardy, Waihi St John.

Facilitator and Note taker: Sarah Gibb

Sarah opened with a heart warmer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOmZXG19Ets>

1. International Wellbeing & Public Policy Conference in Wellington August 2018:

Sarah, Lisette and Bridget presented at this conference and today gave the same presentation to the forum.

Below is the abstract of the presentation and the presentation was recorded. It can be seen on: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e2eD-PGi2vE>

Title: *Transport choices and wellbeing, from policy to outcomes*

Transport choices affect wellbeing directly and indirectly, but transport policy and practice rarely make these links explicit. In late 2017 we investigated links between access to transport, and wellbeing, in South Waikato, New Zealand. The purpose of the research was to identify tangible public and land transport policy interventions to improve individual wellbeing.

We surveyed local people and facilitated focus groups to explore links between access to transport; participation in everyday activities; mental and physical health; and subjective indices of wellbeing. We found that transport choices affect wellbeing but demonstrating robust investment logic is difficult. Initial economic appraisal suggests strong return on investment for both improved walking infrastructure, and for supporting volunteer-based transport services. We found links to wellbeing from investment in walking through improved mental and physical health. Our analysis of the benefits of volunteer-based community transport was based on an assumed reduction in the incidence of dementia because of increased social participation and a reduction in loneliness.

Direct involvement in the work from academics, regional and local government representatives, and people from the affected communities was central to the project's success. Results have implications for transport funding and policy decisions in national, regional and local government. The approach also provides an exemplar for other sectors where more explicit links between research, policy and practice could improve individual and community wellbeing.

2. Regional Public Transport Plan and links to community transport Waikato Regional Council – Nigel King

- The Draft Regional Public Transport Plan closed for public submissions on 19 September following a four week consultation period. 68 submissions were received to the Plan from a

range of submitters, including local and central government organisations, and a large number of private submissions. Overall, submissions received were supportive of the plan. High level themes coming through in the submissions included affordability of public transport, accessible public transport, supergold concessions, network improvements and passenger rail.

- Next Steps for the Public Transport Plan are Hearings to be held 1 October, Deliberations 18 October with the final plan to be considered and adopted by the Regional Council in early December at which point it will become operative.
- Specific references within the Draft Regional Public Transport Plan that are relevant to Community Transport include section 3.1.4.3 on Community Transport which includes policies to provide support for Community Transport including the establishment of Trusts or similar structures to support communities to deliver transport services within communities.
- The Regional Council will be looking at ways to support communities in this area and is very conscious not to impose on operations that already exist but how it may best be placed to provide support for Community Transport into the future.
- To build on the work that was undertaken in the South Waikato Wellbeing Study, the Regional Council is developing an A3 summary of this work with our communications team to quickly summarise the key findings of this research and use this for public engagement. This work is in progress and we wish to be able to share this with the forum as soon as it is available.

3. Update on report to WDHB about patient discharge

- The report has been sent and acknowledged by the Consumer Council.
- Sarah and Bridget were unable to present at the August meeting of the Consumer Council because it was the same day as the conference presentation (as above).
- They will now present on November 1st.

4. Round the regions

- We had a general discussion about van purchase and the interest in social trips as health related.
- Our website needs to be updated with new contacts. Dallas has the same problem at the hospital so we will compare our databases and endeavour to ask everyone to go on to the website www.waikatocommunitytransport.org.nz, check details and provide updates to Kim at Community Waikato. kim@communitywaikato.org.nz
- Request to invite Denise Anderson to the next forum to remind us about the National Travel Assistance criteria.

Next meeting Monday November 26, 2018. 1.00 – 3.00pm at Community Waikato

Please email through any agenda item suggestions to Sarah Gibb.

sarah@communitywaikato.org.nz