

DISABILITY ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE ACCESSIBLE ENVIRONMENTS ADVISORY GROUP BRIEFING SHEET JULY 2003

The new Disability Action Plan, 2003-2007, adopted by Council, contains 108 recommendations. 19 of these relate directly to facilities management issues (ie: FMU, CSB, Security).

To facilitate implementation of the wider 108 recommendations, four new working groups are in the process of being created. They are:

- Teaching and Learning
- Library
- Communications (including the research / consultation side and the promotion / awareness raising of the DAP)
- Information Technology issues are to be overseen by the IT Committee, or a subgroup thereof

The DAP Committee has proposed that the 19 Recommendations relating to Facilities Management should be covered by the Accessible Environments Advisory Group.

The DAP is a five year plan, and many of the recommendations are already progressing within existing initiatives.

Within this context, the AEAG would be responsible for progressing and reporting on the following identified issues:

PRIORITY ISSUES: R 67 & R 100

OTHER: R 23, R 77, R 86, R 87, R 88, R 89, R 90, R 91, R 92, R 93, R 94,
R 95, R 101, R 102, R 103, R 104, R 105, R 106

An outline of each of these recommendations is available as an attachment.

ATTACHMENT 1: DAP RECOMMENDATIONS

PRIORITY ISSUES:

R 67

Explore options to improve access to the City Campus Library for students with a mobility impairment who have difficulty in travelling between the City Campus and the Library

Coordinating Unit: Central Services Branch

Assisting Units: Library, SSU, EDU

R 100

Make provision for accessible inter-campus transport for students and staff with disabilities.

Coordinating Unit: Central Services Branch

Assisting Areas: FMU, SSU, EDU, AEAG

OTHER:

R 23

Ensure all graduation venues used by the University are fully accessible.

Coordinating Units: Registrar, FMU

Assisting Units: CAU, SAU, SSU, EDU

R 77

Create a database of University facilities with good disability access, to improve the scheduling of accessible rooms to meet the needs of staff and students with disabilities

Coordinating Unit: FMU

Assisting Unit: ITD

R 86

Provide disability awareness training and information about best practice in access to the built environment for members of committees that make decisions in relation to the built environment.

Coordinating Unit: FMU

Assisting Units: EDU

R 87

Continue to develop the "in-house" expertise of Facilities Management Unit staff in relation to access issues, and bring in external expertise as required to identify and address access issues.

Coordinating Unit: FMU

Assisting Units: EDU, SSU

R 88

Continue to review the Accessible Environments Policy and Guidelines at regular intervals to maintain its currency with building and DDA standards and codes.

Coordinating Unit: FMU

In consultation with: DAP Committee, EDU, SSU, AEAG, other disability stakeholder groups

R 89

Consult regularly with staff and students with disabilities to identify and address access concerns.

Coordinating Unit: FMU

Assisting Areas: EDU, SSU, AEAG

R 90

Establish a mechanism whereby faculties and units are regularly consulted about access issues arising in their areas.

Coordinating Unit: FMU

Assisting Areas: Faculties and Units, EDU, SSU, AEAG

R 91

Ensure that all new facilities provided for students and staff are accessible to people with disabilities.

Coordinating Unit: FMU

Assisting Areas: SSU, EDU, AEAG

R 92

Develop a process for addressing minor access modifications within a reasonable timeframe.

Coordinating Unit: FMU
In consultation with: AEAG

R 93

Provide clear guidelines on annual expenditure in relation to major and minor access works for all stakeholders involved in decision-making in relation to the built environment.

Coordinating Unit: FMU
In consultation with: AEAG

R 94

Review the budget allocation for access works to determine if sufficient funds are being allocated, particularly in light of the outcomes of the Stage 1 Audit of Access on the City Campus. Request additional funds to meet priorities arising from the Access Audit, as required.

Coordinating Unit: FMU
Assisting Areas: AEAG

R 95

Continue to ensure that a specified number of apartments provided in on-campus accommodation are accessible for students with disabilities.

Coordinating Unit: FMU
Assisting Unit: SSU

R 101

Ensure that commercially operated parking facilities on UTS premises make adequate provision to meet the parking needs of students and staff with a mobility impairment.

Coordinating Unit: FMU
Assisting Areas: SSU, EDU, AEAG

R 102

Consider the introduction of the Self-Enforcing Infringement Notice Scheme on other UTS campuses

Coordinating Unit: Security

R 103

Continue to consult regularly with students and staff with disabilities, to identify access issues and service needs, and to identify the potential impact of changes to security procedures on access.

Coordinating Unit: Security
Assisting Units: SSU, EDU

R 104

Explore issues impacting on after-hours access for people with disabilities.

Coordinating Unit: Security
Assisting Units: SSU, EDU

R 105

Continue to provide disability awareness training for Security personnel addressing both generic and specific disability issues.

Coordinating Units: Security, EDU
Assisting Units: SSU, EH&S Branch

R 106

Ensure that emergency evacuation procedures make provision for the needs of staff and students with disabilities.

Coordinating Unit: Security
Assisting Units: SSU, EDU, EH&S Branch