



Report 08.162  
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Committee Transport & Access Committee  
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## Disability Liaison Role

### 1. Purpose

To advise the Committee of the allocation to a Council staff member of specific responsibility for disability issues within the public transport division of the Council.

### 2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report **do not** trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

### 3. Disability liaison role

Anke Kole, who works in the Design and Development Department, has been given the new role of disability liaison. The main purpose of the role is to make public transport more accessible for people with disabilities. Ten hours per week has been allocated to this role.

Anke's work in this area will involve:

- Acting as a contact person for disability/access issues related to Greater Wellington's responsibilities regarding public transport (both internally and externally)
- Advocating the implementation of measures that help to make public transport more accessible for people with disabilities (in the form of a working programme)
- Lobbying for a structural and dedicated funding source at national level (at Land Transport NZ, MoT and other ministries or institutions as appropriate).

A three step approach is envisaged regarding the development of a work programme:

- Step 1: Define what needs to be achieved (using documents such as the Human Rights Commission “Accessible Journey”, and consulting with representatives of disability groups)
- Step 2: Investigate what has already been achieved, and which projects need a ‘disability check’
- Step 3: Develop a working programme (through comparing step 1 with step 2)

It is intended that a regular progress report will be made to this Committee.

No specific funding has been provided for the new role; any required funding will come from existing budgets.

The Divisional Manager, Public Transport, will have overall responsibility to ensure that the recommendations arising from the role are implemented.

It is intended to review the role after six months (September 2008).

#### **4. Communication**

The allocation of this role should be advised to the media and local disability organisations

#### **5. Recommendations**

*That the Committee:*

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the content of the report.*
- 3. Notes the allocation of the disability liaison role within the Council’s Public Transport Division to Anke Kole.*

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