DRAFT Terms of Reference

Bacchus Marsh Local Dementia Alliance

1. **Introduction**

The National Framework for Action on Dementia 2015–2019 identified the need to develop dementia-friendly communities in Australia in order to build awareness, acceptance and understanding of dementia in the community. These principles of inclusion are grounded in the international work undertaken by the World Health Organisation on age-friendly cities and are echoed in this state’s Age Friendly Victoria Declaration as well as many other policy frameworks that draw on universal design principles.[[1]](#footnote-1)

With 96,789 Victorians living with dementia in 2016, and with governments and community members agreeing that living in the community for as long as possible is desirable, there is a pressing need to equip our communities to understand and support everyone, no matter how diverse their needs. In Moorabool it is estimated that there will be a four-fold increase in the incidence of dementia by 2030.[[2]](#footnote-2)

1. **Purpose of the Bacchus Marsh Local Dementia Alliance**

To improve dementia awareness within the Bacchus Marsh community and reduce the stigma associated with dementia, enabling people living with dementia to remain actively involved in their community. The alliance will inform and guide the development of a Dementia Friendly community action plan and play an advisory role in the future implementation and evaluation of this plan.

Moorabool Shire Council and Djerriwarrh Health will co-lead the establishment, implementation and evaluation of the Bacchus Marsh Dementia Alliance for 12 months.

The concept of a dementia friendly community is an emerging one and may be defined as being a place that enables people to:

* Find their way around and be safe;
* Access the local facilities that they are used to and where they are known;
* Maintain their social networks so they feel they continue to belong.

1. **Responsibilities of the Dementia Alliance is to:**

* mobilise and support people living with dementia to optimise participation in the life of their local community.
* build and strengthen the community’s capacity to provide support to people living with dementia and their families.
* facilitate integrated local community planning and coordination which engages and involves people living with dementia and their families, local government, local service providers and community organisations.
* improve access to information about relevant services and community activities available to people living with dementia in their communities
* recognise, value and encourage a diversity of organisations needed to support people with dementia and their carers in Bacchus Marsh and become members of the Alliance;
* consult with and involve people with dementia and their carers in the work of the Bacchus Marsh Dementia Alliance;
* share information and good practice amongst members;

identify future work and opportunities to share resources and expertise by working in partnership;

* develop and monitor an action plan for the Bacchus Marsh Dementia Alliance;
* identify and work with local Dementia champions in order to deliver dementia friends sessions.
* advocate for the needs of people with a lived experience of dementia to the broader Bacchus Marsh Community to empower people and reduce stigma.

1. **Decision Making**

The decision making role of the group is limited to an advisory capacity which includes making recommendations for actions and activities that support the Bacchus Marsh Dementia Alliance.

1. **Membership**

Whilst membership on the Alliance is voluntary there is an expectation of a minimum 12 month commitment to ensure traction and continuity with actions. Membership of people with a lived experience of dementia is strongly encouraged and will include representatives of organisations and local businesses that provide services to Bacchus Marsh. The Bacchus Marsh Local Dementia Alliance Group will consist of up to 12 members including community members, organisational/business representative local health services and Council appointed representatives.

Appointment of membership of the group will be through an Expression of Interest process and appointments will be for a period of 12 months.

1. **Chair and Secretariat**

Alliance meetings will be chaired by a representative from Moorabool Shire Council and Djerrriwarrh Health Services alternating each meeting. Meeting agendas and minutes will be provided by the host organisation, who will:

* Prepare agendas and supporting papers
* Prepare meeting notes and information

1. **Meeting frequency, duration and location**

Meeting will be held 2 hours, bi-monthly at a local venue.

1. **Confidentiality and Privacy**

Members have an obligation not to disclose any material or information that is not available to public, unless approved by the Chair or representative from Council. All discussion should comply with the requirements under the Privacy Act and its principles.

1. Manningham Local Dementia Alliance Group, *Terms of Reference*, 21 February 2016 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Alzheimers Australia Vic , *Creating Dementia-Friendly Communities: A toolkit for local government*, 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)