

From: Stafford, Deborah
To: [Ruck, Pattie](#)
Subject: ACWG feedback - beach access
Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2018 4:22:53 PM

Hi Pattie,
Please see below for consideration in your report.
A few more to follow.
Thanks,
Deb.

Deb Stafford
Byron Shire Council | P: 02 6626 7088 | M: 0417 524 202

From: Max Brown [mailto:maru.brown77@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, 30 January 2018 6:21 PM
To: Stafford, Deborah
Subject: Fwd: Beach Access what u think?

Dear Council.

I write as a member of The Disabled Access Committee, for a number of years, and a fulltime wheelchair user for the last 17 years.

I am concerned that this facility be placed in the right places, for the maximum use and accessibility for the disabled.

Four beaches have been chosen, some seem inappropriate on various criteria. Just who are we catering for ?

Beach by beach

No, 1 CLARKS BEACH.

The red line presumably represents the path? It seems to have sand on the approach and at the beach side, leaving wheelchairs, walking frames and those using sticks in the middle of nowhere. ,!

In all my talking to fellow Disabled people in the last couple of weeks, very few would be looking at accessing or swimming on Surf beaches, especially on the more remote ones.

Another point is that to use the Sand chair one would need to get it from Main Beach Surf Club, and need a team of helpers to man handle it down and back from the surf.

A big ask for visitors, let alone locals.

NO, 2 MAIN BEACH BYRON BAY

This beach ticks a few boxes, more accessible, a good lifesaver presence, often milder surf, and less distance to the surf and firmer sand most times.

My favourite access would be the existing ramp, re leveled, if possible, and as in your notes a mobile mat would allow access to the beach. Even if one was not swimming being just on the beach would be a red letter day for many.

The other access points look to require a lot more work, and expense while being further from help.

No 3 BRUNSWICK HEADS

ANOTHER very busy and popular beach, again I am not sure what the red lines mean, and again they start and finish in the middle of the sand and would need a lot of realigning. In front of the Surf club would be easier and if placed to the side of the existing access, be easier to maintain, and easier for putting a mat in and out.

My favourite site, and many other wheelies I have talked to, is the river. Access at Torakina Beach would be relatively easy and would last reasonably well, being away from the surf. Off the park in front of the Pub could work well but not sure of the engineering.

I have been to all the Byron Bay beaches in the last couple of weeks, I have a powered wheel chair with 4x4 that allows me access to most.

Again my personal thoughts are that it is important to concentrate on 2 or 3 spots and get them RIGHT, so they are USED, and perhaps copied by other councils.

The other more remote beaches like South Golden Beach, Broken Head, Suffolk Park and others would maybe not get the usage, and I presume we have limited resources?

Being Disabled dosnt mean swimming in the surf is totally off the menu. It just needs a lot of thought and help, as in the local Disabled surfing days where there are plenty of helpers.

From: [Stafford, Deborah](#)
To: [Ruck, Pattie](#)
Subject: ACWG feedback - beach access #2
Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2018 4:25:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Hi Pattie,

Please see below for consideration in your report:

Thanks Deb,

Reading through, my previous feedback stands. Torakina is the safest water, with car park adjacent. Bruns beach has surf club and storage at the community centre. Both beaches are popular and are accessed by residents from OS, Mullumbimby, hinterland and Brunswick communities. Clarkes and Main Beach also feasible though secondary priorities, I would guess these are accessed less by local residents than the Bruns beaches, though you may have modelling on this or feedback from other ACWG members.

Thanks for seeking input.

Warm regards,
Damien

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From: Stafford, Deborah
To: [Ruck, Pattie](#)
Subject: ACWG feedback - beach access #3
Date: Wednesday, 31 January 2018 4:26:27 PM

Hi again Pattie,

This from verbal discussions with members:

We've had some good feedback that has highlighted some points below:

- the timing of the consultation is well placed i.e. before the location priorities are being finalised
- location considerations need to factor in access to calm water, rather than open ocean stretches (e.g. South Golden Beach)
- given the above, Torakina Beach in Brunswick Heads would be a strong option
- Main Beach and Clarkes Beach in Byron Bay are also strong options (and the water is usually fairly protected from swell)
- proximity to the Surf Club in Byron Bay is ideal for additional personal safety when swimming
- Surf Life Saving reps need to be consulted as part of the process
- possible options for the Southern part of the Shire could also be considered e.g. Broken Head

Thanks again.

[Deb Stafford](#) | Acting Manager Community Development

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