The members of Disability Action Plan Steering Group

Gordon Boxall is Owner/Director Weaving Threads Ltd, previous Director Enabling Good Lives Christchurch, Contractor for Choice in Community Living, Auckland and Waikato and founder CEO of MCCH Society Ltd, UK. Currently on the board of Pathways and an advisor to People First’s National Committee. Gordon has an extensive background in disability, mental health and addiction in providing community alternatives to institutional/segregated care in the areas of supported housing/living and social enterprise/employment and working with governments to turn policy rhetoric into everyday best practice. Gordon has qualifications in Alcohol Counselling and Consultation, being a Member of the Chartered Institute of Housing and a Master of Business Administration.

Stella Ward is Executive Director Allied Health for Canterbury and the West Coast DHBs, providing strategic leadership and professional support for allied health, technical and scientific clinical staff in hospitals and community services.

Stella works in partnership with the Executive Director of Nursing and Chief Medical Officer to provide advice to the Board and management on clinical governance and clinical standards. Her Executive Portfolios include the Christchurch Health Precinct; Digital Health System and Health Innovation where she acts as the commercial relationship manager for the Strategic Partnerships with Orion Health; Hewlett Packard and GE Healthcare.

Stella is the Chair of the West Coast Clinical Board and the West Coast Alliance Leadership Team; HPE Board of Advisors and a Trustee of the World Buskers Festival. She trained as a speech language therapist and has worked in the public health system, private practice, education and welfare.
George Schwass is Senior Operations Manager for the Hospital & Specialist Service and has worked for Canterbury District Health Board in various roles for 39 years. In his current role he is accountable to the Hospital General Managers for day to day operations focusing on responsibility & integration across systems, efficiency of resources, improving access and inclusion with accountability. He has a proven ability to deliver on a strategic vision, while taking others on the journey.

Ruth Robson is Programme Manager for the Canterbury Clinical Network (CCN). In that role, Ruth has day to day responsibility for the management of the CCN programme of work that underpins the transformation of the Canterbury Health System. Originally trained as a registered nurse, Ruth has had numerous roles in the NZ health sector including a senior regional project management role with the South Island Alliance Programme Office and more recently in the Canterbury Health Alliance environment.

Dave Nicholl is currently the service manager for General Medicine, Dermatology and Clinical Pharmacology at Christchurch Hospital. He represents Internal Medicine on the Disability Action Plan Steering Group.

He has been a carer for the IHC (which began as the Society for Intellectually Handicapped Children); co-ordinated the KiwiAble programme for the Christchurch City Council; taught the Certificate in Human Services at Christchurch Polytechnic (now ARA); and managed the quality audit programmes nationally for the Disability Support Directorate at the Ministry of Health. His focus will be on ensuring that activity within the medical specialities at Christchurch hospital is consistent with the implementation plan arising from the work of the steering group.
**Haley Nielsen** is mother to three children, including one (now deceased) with special needs. She also lives with a disability.

Haley currently serves on the Canterbury DHB Child Health Advisory Council (previously the Family Advisory Council). She is also a consumer member of the Paediatric Society of NZ Clinical Network- Palliative Care. Haley worked previously as a Psychiatric Social Worker.

She has completed PG Dip Business Admin (HRM) –Massey University; PG Dip Health Sciences (Mental Health) –University of Otago; Dip Social Work & BA – University of Canterbury.

**Allison Nichols-Dunsmuir** is married to a tetraplegic and works as a Health in all Policies Advisor at Community and Public Health, acting as an advisor to the Christchurch City Council Disability Advisory Group. Allison uses a public health/social determinants model of disability to improve the inclusiveness of services and environments. Allison has had a long career in the health and disability sector.

**Kay Boone** is a physiotherapist, trained at Otago University. She worked in private practise and later at the Champion Centre before moving to Christchurch Hospital. Kay worked as the physiotherapist in the children wards for 15 years before becoming Clinical Manager of the Child Development Service in 2007. She is a staff representative on the Canterbury DHB Child Health Advisory Council, a member of the Paediatric Society, and of Physiotherapy New Zealand.

**Kathryn Jones: Chief Executive Officer, the Laura Fergusson Trust Canterbury**

Kathryn is currently the Chief Executive for the Laura Fergusson Trust Canterbury, which provides long term residential support, and residential and community based rehabilitation for people with traumatic brain injury.
Kathryn has extensive experience in the health and disability sector in New Zealand, having worked in general management and national business development roles, working across 16 District Health Boards, the Ministry of Health and the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC). She has been responsible for long-term strategic planning in relation to community care services for older people and adults with disabilities for many years both in New Zealand and the UK.

Kathryn’s background also includes membership of a number of sector representative groups at a national level including: Executive Committee member of the New Zealand Home Health Association, member of the former Canterbury District Health Board Quality and Patient Safety Council, member of the Canterbury Clinical Network reference groups and the Ministry of Health NGO Health and Disability Council from 2012 - 2016.

Kathryn is currently a Trustee of the Arts Integrated Trust which provides performing arts programmes for disabled youth.

**Kathy O’Neill** is Team Leader in Planning and Funding at Canterbury DHB with responsibility for Primary Care, Long term Chronic Health Conditions and Disability.

She has a long history of working for Specialist Mental Health Services, having started as a social worker in one of the community teams and later having leadership roles in intellectual disability, forensic services and the rehabilitation services.

She has been privileged to lead the development of the Transalpine Health Disability Action Plan with people with a disability, their family/whanau, and disability providers and looks forward to working with the members of the Disability Steering Group on the implementation phase of the Action Plan.

**Simon Templeton** is a registered nurse with a post grad diploma in health management. He is currently CEO Age Concern Canterbury and West Coast, a Member Health of Older People
Work Stream and Chair of the Local Executive Committee CCS Disability Action Canterbury and West Coast. Previously Simon worked as a service development manager in Planning and Funding at Canterbury DHB and held management roles in both older persons health and in mental health services.

**Paul Barclay** is married with a daughter at primary school. In addition to full-time work his family runs two businesses. He is a keen follower of sports and has represented New Zealand at both Blind Cricket and Goalball.

Paul has lived experience of disability since being blinded in a car accident in 1988. Prior to that he had completed a Farm Management degree from Lincoln College with the intention of going back to the family farm in South Otago. Following a rehabilitation programme through the Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind, Paul returned to Lincoln and completed Post Graduate studies in Commerce. Subsequently, for close to 25 years, Paul held positions ranging from Service Advisor to Vocational Employment Advisor to National Manager Rehabilitation Services with the RNZFB. During that time he gained a Diploma in Career Counselling from Welltech. He was employed as Regional Manager (Southern) with Arthritis NZ for 6 years.

Paul is a member of ACC’s National Serious Injury Advisory Group and is currently a member of CCC’s Disability Advisory Group. He is also on the Boards of Volunteering Canterbury and Earthquake Disability Leadership Group.

**Prudence Walker** works in accessibility, advocacy, mentoring, facilitation and leadership in the community both as an independent contractor and in her role as Coordinator of Disability Leadership and Education for CCS Disability Action Southern. She brings lived experience of disability as well as prior experience as the Chairperson of the International Childhood Cancer Survivor Network, National Chairperson of
CanTeen (supporting Young People Living with Cancer) and a member of the Paediatric Oncology Steering Group. Prudence a Be.Leadership Programme alumnus and a member of the Greater Christchurch Public Transport Disability Reference Group through her role with CCS Disability Action.

**Mick O’Donnell** is the Communications Teamleader at Canterbury DHB. He manages a small team of communications professionals, provides strategic advice and practical assistance to DHB staff, and liaises with our Canterbury health system partners on communications issues.

He assisted in finalising the Disability Action Plan, in organising the launch event, and over the past five or so years has provided advice and communications support to the Brackenridge team, a subsidiary of Canterbury DHB that provides care and support to autistic people and people with physical and cognitive impairment.

**Kay Boone** is a physiotherapist, trained at Otago University. She has worked in private practice and later at the Champion Centre before moving to Christchurch Hospital. I worked as the physiotherapist in the children wards for 15 years before becoming Clinical Manager of the Child Development Service in 2007, her current role. She is passionate about working with children and their families /whānau to meet their health and disability needs. She love working with a dedicated multidisciplinary team and enjoys the challenges of trying to meet demands on our service.

**Mark Lewis** is Manager, Wellbeing Health and Safety at Canterbury District Health Board and is responsible for the strategic development of wellbeing, health and safety policy, strategy and resources to support the business. His role supports operational compliance with the wellbeing, health and safety policy and strategy; and engagement that supports operational accountability. He represents the Canterbury DHB People and Capability management team.
Previously Mark was with the New Zealand Defence Force for nine years in various leadership and leadership development roles at the New Zealand Army Leadership Centre [NZALC] and advised on safety systems and processes for adventure training, and safe and effective conduct of all NZALC in-camp and field activities.

**Dr Jane Hughes** is a Consultant Psychiatrist and Clinical Director of Intellectually Disabled Persons health (IDPH), a cluster of services within Canterbury District Health Board’s specialist mental health services. These services include community and inpatient mental health services for adults with an Intellectual Disability and mental health needs, alongside inpatient and outpatient disability services that provide specialist care for individuals with an intellectual disability who have high and complex behavioural needs or receive care under the Intellectual Disability Compulsory Care and Rehabilitation Act.