



# Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017-2021



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# How to use this document



This document is a plan for the Blue Mountains City Council to help people with disability.



This version is easy read. It has lots of pictures to help you understand.



It is a summary of our Disability Inclusion Action Plan. If you want to read the whole plan it is on our website. [www.websitehere.com.au](http://www.websitehere.com.au)



When the word 'we' is used, we mean Blue Mountains City Council.



If you need help, a friend, family member or support person can help you to read this document.



We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional owners of our land – Australia.

# Why write a plan



We want all people to feel welcome and part of our village community.



We do lots of activities which involve people with a disability.

- We plan our village centres, buildings and parks
- We create jobs
- We empty bins and look after roads
- We listen and talk to our community
- We educate and provide information on fun things to do

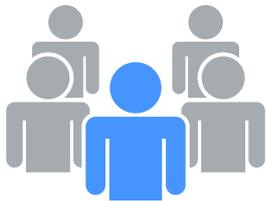


To do this better we have written this plan. It sets out what we will do to improve including people with disability in our community.



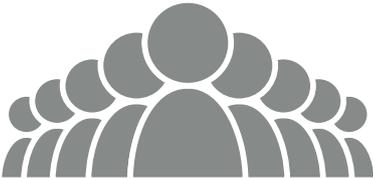
- We will show leadership
- We will support you, your family and friends.

# Who has a disability in the Blue Mountains



**1 in 5 People**

At least 1 in 5 people in the Blue Mountains live with a disability.



**15,000 People**

This is about 15,000 people.



**1 in 22 People**

Of these:

About 1 in 22 people require help with every day tasks.

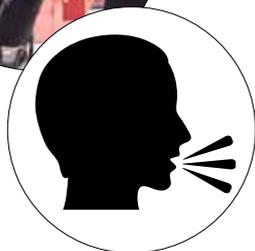
Most of these people are over 65 years old but there are people with disability of all ages, including children living in the mountains.



There are lots of people in the Mountains (about 1 in 8) who look after someone with a disability.

This Plan will support all of these people.

# How did we write our plan



**We asked about what we can do to achieve our six directions for inclusion:**

1. All people can get around – walking, cycling, using public transport and cars
2. All people are welcome – how people treat and speak to people with disability
3. All people can live and work – having a nice place to live and a good job
4. All people get the information they need – by paper, computer, telephone, friends and family
5. All people have a say – listening to people with disability
6. All people are part of city life – enjoying our parks, theatres, libraries and festivals with family and friends



## We undertook the following steps:



What we already do to help people with disability



To people with disability, their friends, family and carers



On actions for inclusion



A plan



# What we already do:



We have events and programs for all



We have places everybody can enjoy



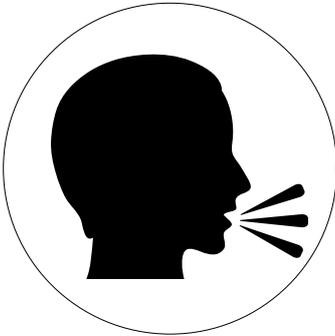
We make it easy to work or help out



We will listen to you and lend a hand

## Talk

# We listened to you:



**To create this Plan we spoke to people about what they want us to do about inclusion. We spoke to:**

- People with disability, family and carers
- Blue Mountains disability organisations
- Council staff
- Residents



**We used different ways to listen and talk to people.**



- We asked questions in a survey
- We talked to people one on one
- We ran meetings with groups of people
- We put draft plan on our website for comment.



Decide

## What we will do:

**We looked at what you said and then looked at what we can do to support people with disability in the Mountains**

Our plan has actions to:

1. Encourage people to understand and welcome people with disability (Attitudes and Behaviours)
2. Make our community a better place for people with disability to live (Livable Communities)
3. Help people with disability get a job, training or help the community (Employment)
4. Provide better information and support for people with disability (Systems and Processes)



Make

## Our Plan:

### Focus Area 1: Understand and welcome people with disability



#### You said we should:

- Respect and celebrate what people with disability can do
- Make sure community facilities, medical services and all shops can be visited and welcome people with disability
- Use the right words, be friendly and supportive to people with disability.



#### What we will do

- Creating fun activities, places and sports for all
- Making it easy to join in our community events like Winter Magic
- Writing stories about people with disability for our local paper
- Promoting disability friendly local shops
- Training Council staff to help people with disability



Make

## Our Plan:

### Focus Area 2: Make our community a better place for people with disability



#### You said we should:

- Improve every day transport options
- Look at how housing can be made cheaper and more disability friendly
- Provide more fun things for young people with disability



#### What we will do: We will make the Mountains a great place for people with disability by:

- Making our parks, playgrounds and sports places easier to visit
- Creating more fun programs and events for all
- Helping people with a disability get to events and activities
- Working with government to make public transport more accessible



Make

## Our Plan:

### Focus Area 3: Help people with disability get a job



#### You said we should:

- Provide more jobs and training for people with disability in Council
- Create options for young people with disability after school finishes



#### What we will do: We will help people with disability work or help in the community by:

- Make council a top place to get a job for people with disability
- Increase options for volunteering with Council
- Talking to local bosses about helping people with disability get jobs
- Working with schools and training places to make it easy for people with disability to get skills



Make

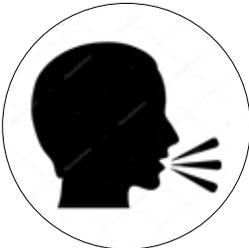
## Our Plan:

### Focus Area 4: Provide better information and support



#### You said we should:

- Improve Council's website
- Use the local newspaper
- Listen and talk to people with disability before making decisions.

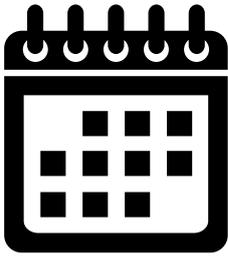


#### What we will do: We will provide information and help for people with disability by:

- Making our information easy to read and accessible
- Giving information on services Council provides to people with disability
- Supporting people with disability to join our community advice groups such as the Access Advisory Committee



## In the future:



**4 Years**

This Disability Inclusion Action Plan lasts for 4 years.

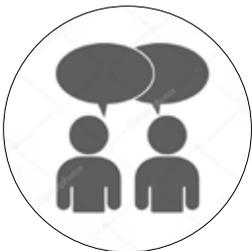
Actions will be in our Community Strategic Plan



Every year we will tell you about our progress. We will write about how we are going in our Annual Report.



And we will let you know on our website.



We will keep listening and talking to you.

After 4 years, we will look at what actions we did and did not do.



**After 4 Years**

And then rewrite parts of our plan if we need to.

## Contact:

If you have any questions about this Plan please call **Prue Hardgrove our Aged and Disability Services Development Officer on (02) 4780 5546.**