



BELLINGEN
SHIRE COUNCIL

Disability Inclusion Action Plan

2022-2026



Easy Read

www.bellingen.nsw.gov.au

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About the Disability Inclusion Action Plan



This is the Disability Inclusion Action Plan for Bellingen Shire Council.



The **Disability Inclusion Action Plan** says what the council will do to make the Bellingen Shire a better place for people with disability.



We say **the plan** for short.



Inclusion means that everyone can take part.



The plan starts in 2022 and ends in 2026.

Acknowledgement of Country



An **Acknowledgement of Country** is when we show our respect for Aboriginal people.



We want to show our respect to the Aboriginal owners of the Bellinghen Shire the Gumbayanggir people.



We want to show our respect to their Elders.



Elders are important people in the Aboriginal community who

- Share what they know
- Support people to learn
- Help the community to stay well.

A message from the mayor



This is a message from Stephen Allan.

I am Bellingen Shire Mayor.



I am very happy to share this plan with you.



The council wants to make sure everyone can take part in our community.



We will do things so everyone can join in and make their own choices.



The council wants to say thank you to all the people who shared their ideas to make this plan.

A message from the general manager



This is a message from Liz Jeremy.

I am General Manager.



I am proud to work with the council on this plan.



The plan shows the work we must do to make sure everyone

- Can take part
- Has their rights.



We will work together with the community so everyone can enjoy life in Bellingen Shire.

The right to be included



People with disability have a right to be included in the community.



In Australia there are laws that say people with disability must be included.



This plan has steps we will take to make sure people with disability are included in the Bellingen Shire.



Being included is good for everyone.

How we made this plan



To make this plan we talked to

- People with disability
- Families and carers
- Disability services
- Advocacy organisations
- Community groups
- Job services
- People who work at the Council.



People could share what they think through

- Meetings in the community
- Online meetings
- Emails
- Talking to council
- Surveys.



A **survey** is when you ask questions about a topic.



We used what you told us to make this plan.

4 big things



You told us what needs to happen to make Bellingham better for people with disability.



There are 4 big things we will work on.

1. The way people think about people with disability.



2. How everyone can have a good life.



3. More good jobs.



4. Services and information.

The way people think about disability



The council want everyone to see the good things about people with disability.



We will do training on disability and inclusion for council workers.



We will make sure people know how to speak about disability with respect.



We will share stories about inclusion.



We will have events for people with disability like

- The International Day of People with Disability
- The Ian J Cooper Award for Access and Inclusion
- Events about mental health.



We will work with

- The Youth Hub
- Other community organisations.



We will make sure their programs include people with disability.

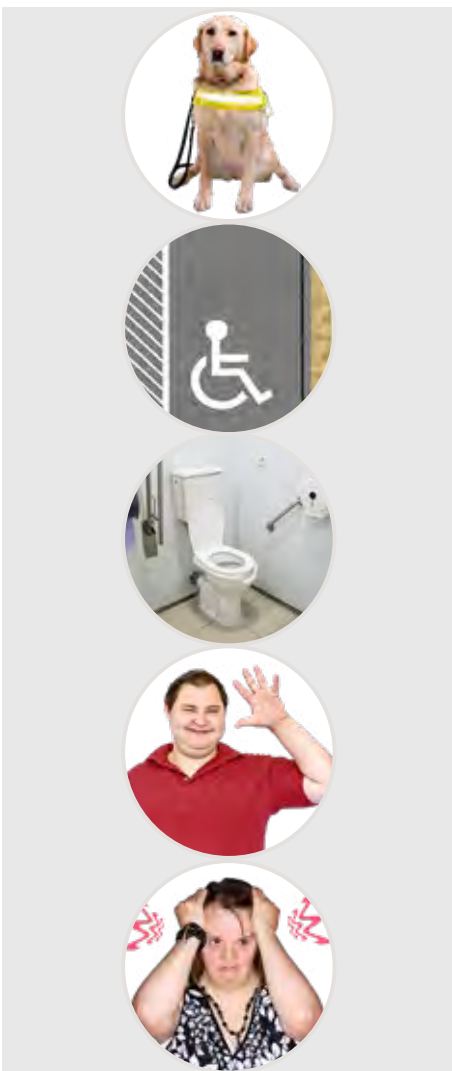


We will make sure people see and hear more about disability.



To do this the council will talk about disability

- In our newsletters and flyers
- On the internet.



We want people to know more about

- Assistance dogs
- Disability parking
- Accessible toilets
- Autism
- Mental health.



To do this the council will

- Make flyers
- Have campaigns about disability.



A **campaign** means you tell people about an important topic.



We will work with other councils to find out how they make inclusion happen.

How everyone can have a good life



The council will work so people can have a good life in the Bellingen Shire.



We want to make sure places are easy to use like

- Community halls
- Parks.

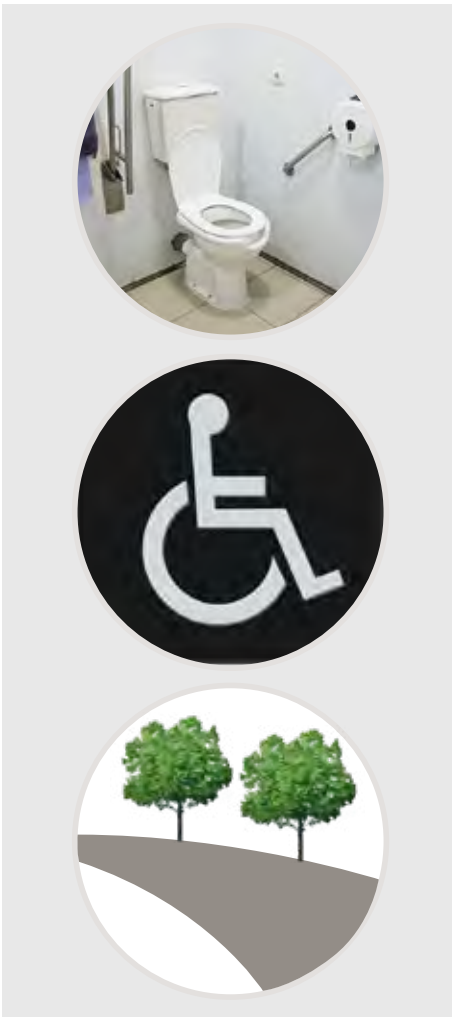


We will also do this for new places we build.



We will make sure everyone knows about places and services that are good for people with disability like

- Parks and playgrounds
- Pools
- Transport.



We will make better

- Toilets for people with disability

- Signs

- Footpaths.



We will look at ways that everyone can enjoy the outdoors.



We will make sure there is good disability parking.

More good jobs



The council will take action so people with disability have more good jobs.



We will share information about jobs with people with disability.



We will support businesses that give jobs to people with disability.



We will train council workers on how to give jobs to people with disability.



We will make sure council offices are easy to use and get in to.



We will look into what makes it hard for people with disability to get a job.



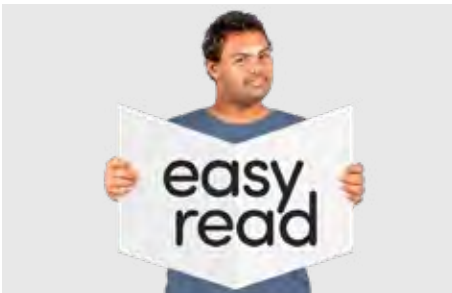
We will work together with

- Disability organisations
- The NDIS
- Other councils.

Services and information



The council will work to make it easy to get **services and information**.



We will make important documents in Easy Read.



We will make sure our websites are easy to use.



We will share info about

- Disability
- Services
- Our work to make inclusion happen.

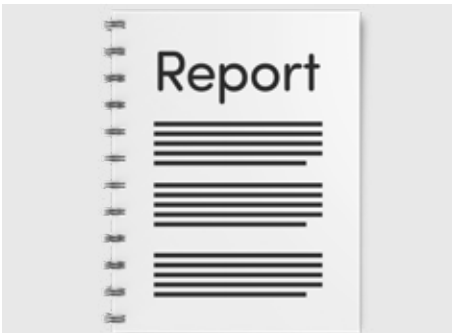


We will talk to disability organisations about how to make our services better.

How we will make the plan happen



People who work at Bellingham council will work to make the plan happen.



We will write reports to let the community know how we are doing.



At the end of the plan we will ask if you are happy with our work.



The council will try to give money for actions that need it.

Contact us



Contact us for more info about the plan

- Call **02 6655 7300**



- Email **council@bellingen.nsw.gov.au**

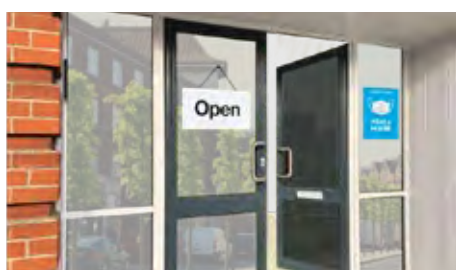


- Go to **www.bellingen.nsw.gov.au**



- Write to us

Bellingen Shire Council
PO Box 117
Bellingen NSW 2454



- Come and see us

33 Hyde St
Bellingen NSW 2454

Council for Intellectual Disability made this document Easy Read. **CID** for short.
You need to ask CID if you want to use any pictures in this document.
You can contact CID at **business@cid.org.au**.