

# **BLAYNEY SHIRE**



## **ACCESS STRATEGY**

**Objective 1: Council and the wider community to be more aware and informed of issues relating to access.**

	Goal	Action Plan	Responsibility
1.1	To ensure that Council will act as a leader and role model for universal access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Incorporate actions into all corporate plans of Council.</li> <li>▪ Have their own facilities i.e. parks, bridges etc fully accessible within budgetary constraints.</li> <li>▪ Develop an updated access database for accessibility of venues.</li> <li>▪ Develop "Accessible checklist" for Council website and events.</li> </ul>	<p>Council</p> <p>Council</p> <p>DCS</p> <p>DCS</p>
1.2	To ensure that relevant Council staff are aware of the requirements of the DDA and the DIS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Training of relevant staff.</li> <li>▪ Provide education in particular about disability etiquette.</li> </ul>	<p>HRM</p> <p>HRM</p>
1.3	To improve the abilities of Council staff to communicate effectively with people with disabilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Appropriate staff training.</li> </ul>	HRM
1.4	To ensure that information regarding Council meetings, Committees and other activities is distributed widely and in a variety of accessible formats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Promotion in accord with Council's Communication strategy to target audiences.</li> <li>▪ Order and distribute publications which assist to raise awareness of access issues.</li> </ul>	<p>Council</p> <p>Council</p>
1.5	To ensure that the views and needs of people with disabilities are heard by the community and decision makers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Advocacy.</li> <li>▪ Promotion / increase awareness.</li> <li>▪ Facilitate.</li> <li>▪ Seek input.</li> <li>▪ Regular contact with service providers.</li> </ul>	Council / Access Advisory Committee
1.6	To encourage the State and Federal Governments to provide funding, universally accessible services and facilities that are beyond the responsibility and ability of Local Government and community organisations to provide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Make representations regarding access issues.</li> <li>▪ Advocate a right based system where individual needs are looked at more closely.</li> <li>▪ Lobby for additional funding.</li> </ul>	<p>Council</p> <p>Council / External stakeholders</p> <p>Council / External stakeholders</p>

**Objective 2: To advise Council on provision of access for all members of the community to Council facilities, infrastructure and buildings and to encourage the community to address access issues also.**

	Goal	Action Plan	Responsibility
2.1	To identify what access issues people with disabilities face.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community engagement.</li> <li>▪ Incorporate issues into plans.</li> </ul>	Council / Access Advisory Committee
2.2	To ensure that all people have fair and equitable access to Council services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Follow up identified community issues.</li> <li>▪ Conduct access audits on Council facilities and services.</li> <li>▪ Develop "Accessible Business" information package.</li> </ul>	Council Dept's GM DCS
2.3	To provide information to people with disabilities about services and facilities available for their use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Create database of available services.</li> <li>▪ Create awareness of service providers.</li> <li>▪ Develop promotional material.</li> <li>▪ Create partnerships with service providers.</li> <li>▪ Engage with existing services in region.</li> </ul>	Council / Access Advisory Committee /external stakeholders
2.4	To improve access & awareness to sport and recreation activities for people with disabilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop improvement program for Council facilities.</li> <li>▪ Engage with Dept. Sport &amp; Recreation to encourage participation of local sporting groups.</li> <li>▪ Seek funding for sporting groups to modify facilities.</li> </ul>	Council Council  Council / Access Advisory Committee
2.5	To provide accessible library and information services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Engage with Central West Libraries to undertake a services review of services with a view to the provision of universal access.</li> <li>▪ Develop services improvement program.</li> </ul>	DCS  Council / CWL

**Objective 3: This Committee will strive to assist Council to provide services that are accessible to all of the community.**

	Goal	Action Plan	Responsibility
3.1	To determine which Council buildings and facilities require works to improve access for people with disabilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical audit of Shire by a variety of people with disabilities.</li> <li>Develop priorities following community consultation.</li> </ul>	Access Advisory Committee  Council
3.2	To ensure that access improvements to buildings and facilities are planned and undertaken within resource constraints.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All development applications for public buildings &amp; facilities referred to Access Advisory Committee.</li> <li>Inform community on Council's plans for accessibility.</li> </ul>	Council  Council
3.3	To promote the construction and modification of accessible buildings as required by the Disability Discrimination Act, Building Code of Australia and other relevant legislation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage accessible commercial and residential development.</li> <li>Ensure accessibility standards and legislative requirements are met within Council projects.</li> </ul>	Council  Council
3.4	To ensure that sufficient accessible parking spaces are available for people with disabilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accessible parking spaces audit of streets and Council's community facilities.</li> <li>Provide more accessible parking to high usage facilities.</li> <li>Ensure compliance with Disability Discrimination Act, Building Code of Australia and relevant Australian Standard (AS1428.1)</li> </ul>	Council  Council
3.5	To ensure that people with disabilities can safely travel footpaths and across streets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prioritise implementation of Destination Zones (5.2) as outlined in Blayney Bike Plan, Pedestrian Access &amp; Mobility Plan.</li> <li>Implement priorities identified from customer requests, reports, Council inspections and Asset Management Plan.</li> </ul>	Council  Council

**Objective 4: This Committee will strive to improve community transport options available to all residents and in particular people with disabilities within the Blayney Shire.**

	Goal	Action Plan	Responsibility
4.1	Increase access and awareness to community transport.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Collaborative approach with transport service providers to review services.</li> <li>▪ Promotion of services and entitlement benefits</li> </ul>	Council  Council / External stakeholders
4.2	To support transport projects that lessen social isolation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gather information on the unmet transport need in community.</li> <li>▪ Work with transport service providers to advocate for more frequent, widespread and accessible services.</li> <li>▪ Investigate supplementary support programs e.g. Village neighbour transport program.</li> </ul>	Council / External Stakeholders  Council  Council
4.3	Ensure future access issues and needs of community are met.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Survey community</li> <li>▪ Encourage issues to be raised with Council</li> <li>▪ Increase awareness through community engagement</li> </ul>	Council / External Stakeholders  Council