

Draft Alexandrina Council Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2026–2030 (Plain English Version)

Welcome

This draft plan shows how Alexandrina Council will make our community more welcoming and accessible for people with disability. It was shaped by talking with community members, staff, volunteers, and Council Members.

We want everyone - residents, workers, and visitors - to feel included and supported. This draft plan helps us improve services, spaces, and how we work with the community.

Acknowledgment of Country

We acknowledge the Ngarrindjeri, Peramangk, and Kaurna people as the Traditional Owners of the land and waters in our Council area.

Contact Us

You can give feedback or ask for this draft plan in different formats:

- Online: mysay.alexandrina.sa.gov.au
- Phone: 8557 000
- Email: alex@alexandrina.sa.gov.au
- Visit our offices in Goolwa or Strathalbyn.

About Alexandrina

Our Council area covers 1,827 square kilometres and includes towns, villages, and rural areas. It is known for its natural beauty, culture, and relaxed lifestyle.

Disability In Our Community

- Population (2021): 28,730
- Forecast (2041): 37,933
- People needing help with daily tasks: 2,270 (7.9%)
- Unpaid carers: 3,684 (14.9% of adults)
- People living alone: 3,333 (26.9%).

Our Vision

We want Alexandrina to be:

- Liveable: Spaces and services that everyone can use
- Connected: Inclusive transport and community participation.

This draft plan builds on our previous work and shows our commitment to making life better for people with disability.

Why This Draft Plan Matters

The Disability Inclusion Act 2018 (SA) says councils must create plans to improve access and inclusion. This draft plan follows State and national strategies and supports the rights of people with disability.

What Councils Can Do

Councils help by:

- Making spaces and events inclusive
- Listening to people with disability
- Supporting inclusive jobs and volunteering
- Improving transport and facilities.

How We Created This Plan

We listened to people with disability, carers, service providers, and the community. Their feedback helped shape the draft plan's goals and actions.

Who We Are Supporting

We aim to support:

- Aboriginal people with disability
- People from diverse cultures
- Women, children, and LGBTIQ+ people with disability
- People with high support needs
- People living in regional areas.

What Council has achieved from the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (2021–2024)

- 77% of actions completed or ongoing
- Inclusive events such as dance parties and Australia Day events
- Better website accessibility
- Inclusive arts and library programs
- More volunteering and job opportunities
- Involving people with disability in decision-making.

Our Actions (2026–2030)

We have grouped our actions under five main areas:

1. Inclusive Environments and Communities

- Make events welcoming and accessible
- Upgrade parks, buildings, and toilets

- Share information in formats such as Easy Read and Auslan
- Improve transport options
- Celebrate inclusion through events and campaigns.

2. Education and Employment

- Support inclusive volunteering
- Make hiring practices fairer
- Offer mentoring and flexible work options.

3. Personal and Community Support

- Help people connect with services
- Work with other councils and service providers
- Fund inclusive programs and events.

4. Health and Wellbeing

- Make health services and buildings easier to access
- Support mental health and disability services working together.

5. Safety, Rights and Justice

- Help people prepare for emergencies
- Make sure people with disability are safe and supported.

Putting The Draft Plan into Action

- Each action has a responsible team
- Council will track progress using data from surveys and reports
- Staff will do training to understand disability inclusion
- Council will share updates with the community and government
- People with disability will help shape services and programs.

Glossary (Plain English)

- **DAIP (Disability, Access and Inclusion Plan):** A plan to make Council services and spaces better for people with disability.
- **Universal Design:** Designing things so everyone can use them.
- **Easy Read:** Simple words and pictures to explain things.
- **Auslan:** Sign language used by deaf people in Australia.
- **Changing Places Facility:** A toilet with extra features for people with high support needs.
- **P-CEP:** A way to help people with disability plan for emergencies.