

Fact Sheet

Development Information Guide



Access and Facilities for People with a Disability

People living with a disability have the same rights as other citizens to be part of the social, cultural, economic and political life of the community.

This is supported by the *Federal Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (DDA), which provides protection for everyone in Australia against discrimination based on disability.

Disability Action Inclusion Plan (DAIP)

The Barossa Council, in conjunction with Light, Gawler and Adelaide Plains councils, is developing a regional Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP), the first of its kind for the region.

The aim of the DAIP is to improve access for all and increase the number of opportunities for people with a disability that live, work, play, volunteer and visit the region.

It outlines proactive strategies to enhance Council policies, practices, services and facilities to improve access for people with a disability.

Disability Access Review Committee (DARC)

Formed in 1996, Council's Disability Access Review Committee (DARC) was one of the first in SA.

The Committee operates under the Local Government Act Section 41 requirements and aims to promote community participation for people with disabilities.

The Committee provides information to Council on disability issues including access to Council buildings and public places, and may also advise on development applications.

Access

The *Development Act* and Regulations and the Building Code of Australia have specific requirements for the design of new buildings to ensure reasonable access is provided.

Determining proper access to buildings can influence the design, operation and appearance of a building. In cases of a change in land use, renovations and/or alterations of older, existing buildings (other than for a dwelling), the need to provide access for people with a disability will be assessed as part of the Development Application process.



In addition to allowing access for people with a disability to and within a building, consideration may also be given to facilities such as toilets, washbasins and, in some instances, shower facilities.

Council's Building Surveyors will inspect a percentage of new buildings to determine their compliance with the *Development Act* and Regulations and the Building Code of Australia. If complaints are received from the public, officers may also conduct an inspection of premises and action appropriately.

Council Services for People with a Disability

- Counter hearing systems have been installed by The Barossa Council in the main Council office and library at Nuriootpa improve communication between council and library staff and the growing number of people with hearing loss. The systems were supplied by the Royal South Australian Deaf Society's (Deaf SA) – Deafness Friendly Program to assist customers and visitors in their verbal interaction with staff and improve the quality of life of those suffering the isolating effects of hearing loss.
- Barossa & Light Home Assist provides services to enable people to remain living safely in their own home, maintain independence and enhance their quality of life. The scheme is available to residents of The Barossa Council and Light Regional Council who are on a Disability Support Pension. Refer to our Barossa & Light Home Assist Fact Sheet for more information.

For further information contact Council's Development and Environmental Services Section on 8563 8483.