

Cardinia Shire Council

Disability Strategy and Action Plan 2021–26

Easy Read version



How to use this plan



Cardinia Shire Council wrote this plan.
When you see the word 'we', it means the
Cardinia Shire Council.



We wrote this plan in an easy to read way.
We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Not bold
Bold

We have written some words in **bold**.
This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these words mean.
There is a list of these words on page 30.



This Easy Read plan is a summary of another plan.
This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other plan on our website at
creating.cardinia.vic.gov.au/disability-action-plan.



You can ask for help to read this plan. A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.



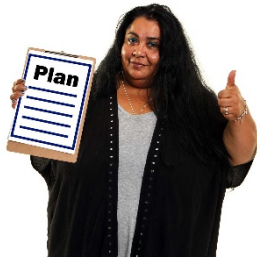
We recognise that we live and work on the land of the:

- Bunurong people
- Boonwurrung people
- Wurundjeri people.

What's in this plan?

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A message from our Mayor



I am proud to share our Disability Strategy and Action Plan.

We just call it our Plan.



Our Plan talks about what we will do to make Cardinia Shire more **accessible**.



When something is accessible, everyone can use it.



Our Plan talks about what we will do to make Cardinia Shire more **inclusive**.



When something is inclusive, everyone can take part.



I want to thank the **Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee** for:

- their hard work
- helping us make our Plan.



The Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee is part of Cardinia Shire council.

The Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee is a group of people who meet to talk about ideas.



I also want to thank:

- the community
- disability services
- organisations that speak up for people with disability.

I am proud that our Plan:



- will help meet the needs of our community



- guide our important work.

Our vision for Cardinia Shire



Our **vision** is what we want Cardinia Shire to be in the future.



We want to make Cardinia Shire more accessible.



We want to make Cardinia Shire more inclusive.

We want Cardinia Shire to be a place where everyone:



- is treated with respect



- can work and learn safely



- feels supported



- has an equal chance to take part.

About Cardinia Shire

126,000



126,000 people live in Cardinia Shire.

3,959



3,959 people in Cardinia Shire are people with disability.



↑ 8,000



By 2031, we will have more than 8,000 people with disability living in Cardinia Shire.



5,000



By 2031, we will have about 5,000 older people with disability living in Cardinia Shire.

More than 8,100 people in Cardinia Shire care for:



- a person with disability



- a person with an illness that lasts for a long time



- an older person.



The **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)** provides support to people with disability all around Australia



Cardinia Shire is part of the Southern Melbourne NDIS area.

37% **NDIS**



37% of people with disability in Cardinia Shire get supports and services from the NDIS.

What do we know about people with disability?



We know that people with disability face challenges when they:

- look for work
- find a job.

We know that people with disability who get a chance to learn can:



- learn skills for day-to-day life



- find and keep a job



- do things on their own.



We know people with disability are not as safe as other people.



We know that people with disability are treated unfairly because of their disability.

We know it's important for people with disability to live in a community:



- that includes everyone



- where they can connect with other people.

The laws that apply



We have a law in Victoria called the *Victorian Disability Act 2006* (the Act).



The Act explains the rules everyone must follow.

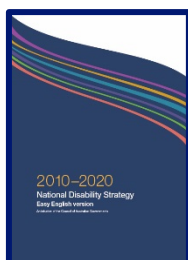


The Act makes sure people with disability in Victoria are treated fairly.



The Act says we must have a Disability Strategy and Action Plan.

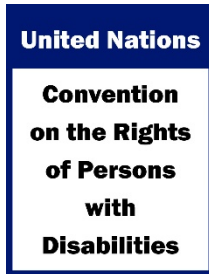
We call it our Plan.



We also follow the **National Disability Strategy**.



The National Disability Strategy is a plan to make life better for people with disability around Australia.



We also follow the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (the UN Convention) in our Plan.

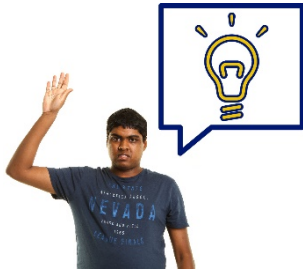


The UN Convention is a document that sets out the **rights** of people with disability around the world.



Rights are rules about how everybody should be treated fairly.

What people told us



We asked people to share their ideas about how Cardinia Shire can be more:

- accessible
- inclusive.

These people were from:



- the Cardinia Shire community



- our team.

They told us by:



- coming to meetings



- visiting our website



- answering our questions.

People shared their ideas about:



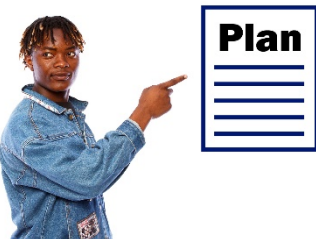
- accessible spaces and places



- having a strong community.



- living, working and learning in Cardinia Shire.



We have included their ideas in our Plan.

Asking the community to have a say



We asked the community to have their say about our Plan.

They had 4 weeks to:



- read our Plan

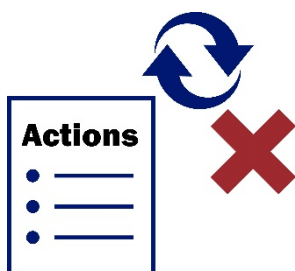


- tell us what they thought about our Plan.



The community told us our Plan can help make Cardinia Shire more:

- accessible
- inclusive.



So we didn't change the actions in our Plan.

Our Disability Strategy and Action Plan

Our Plan talks about how we will make Cardinia Shire more:



- accessible



- inclusive.



Our plan has 4 **themes**.



Themes are important ideas that come up in different areas of our work and lives.



1. Accessible spaces and places



2. Including everyone in our community



3. Living, working and learning locally



4. Stopping **discrimination**.



Discrimination is when you treat someone badly because of something about them they can't change.



We have a list of what we need to do to reach our goals for each theme.



We talk about each theme in more detail on the following pages.

1. Accessible spaces and places



We can include people with disability if our places and spaces are accessible.

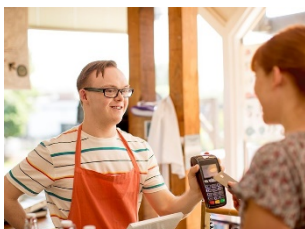
This includes our:



- public spaces



- services



- businesses.



We will make sure people with disability can find and use local services.



We will make all our buildings more accessible.

This includes:



- new buildings we make



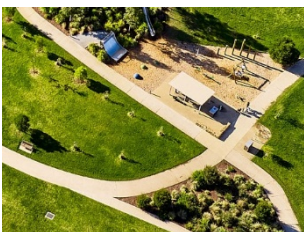
- buildings we already have.

We will make our outdoor spaces more accessible.

This includes our:



- parks



- footpaths.



We will encourage local businesses to become more accessible.

2. Including everyone in our community

When our community is inclusive, people with disability can:



- feel supported



- connect with other people



- take part in fun activities, like sport.



We will make sure our community knows more about people with disability.



We will make sure our local businesses know more about people with disability.



We will make information accessible for everyone.

We will give people with disability more chances to take part in:



- sport



- community events



- community groups.

3. Living, working and learning in Cardinia Shire

When people with disability work, they can:



- earn their own money



- connect with other people



- take part in the community



- feel like they belong

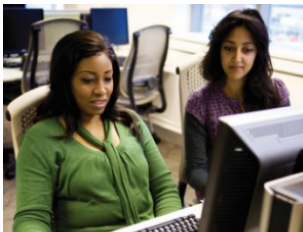


- do more for themselves and on their own.

We will give people with disability more chances to:



- learn



- find work and keep a job.



We will celebrate when people with disability reach their goals.



We will become leaders of hiring more people with disability.



We will speak up about giving people with disability choices about:

- where they live
- who they live with.

4. Stopping discrimination

When we stop discrimination, people with disability can feel:



- safe



- included



- respected.



We will help our community change what they:

- think about people with disability
- believe about people with disability.



We will celebrate our **diverse** community.



When our community is diverse, it means lots of different people live there.

We will make sure people with disability feel:



- safe



- welcome.

Making sure our Plan works



We will keep track of how well our Plan is going.

We will make sure it:



- includes how we reach our goals



- stays up to date



- meets the needs of people with disability.



We will write a report about our Plan each year.



Our Plan will last for 5 years.

Word list



Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee

The Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee is part of Cardinia Shire council.

The Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee is a group of people who meet to talk about ideas.



Accessible

When something is accessible, everyone can use it.



Discrimination

Discrimination is when you treat someone badly because of something about them they can't change.



Diverse

When our community is diverse, it means lots of different people live there.



Inclusive

When something is inclusive, everyone can take part.



National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The NDIS provides support to people with disability all around Australia.



National Disability Strategy

The National Disability Strategy is a plan to make life better for people with disability around Australia.



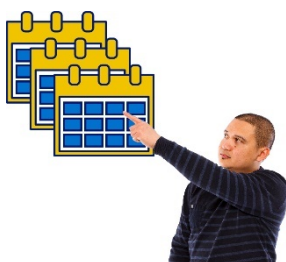
Rights

Rights are rules about how everybody should be treated fairly.



Themes

Themes are important ideas that come up in different areas of our work and lives.



Vision

Our vision is what we want Cardinia Shire to be in the future.

Contact us



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www.cardinia.vic.gov.au



If you have trouble hearing or speaking, you can contact the National Relay Service.



TTY

133 677

Speak and Listen

1300 555 727



If you speak a language other than English, you can call Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS).

131 450



www.facebook.com/CardiniaShireCouncil



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www.linkedin.com/company/cardinia-shire-council



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