

# Disability Action Plan

## 2023/24 – easy read version



## **Acknowledgement**

We live and work on the land of the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Peoples and we respect Aboriginal elders and all Aboriginal people.

## **Introduction**

This document is a Disability Action Plan for Macedon Ranges Shire Council for 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

This Plan fits with our Council Plan and other Council plans and policies.

The Plan says how Council will improve access and inclusion for people with disability who live or work in the Macedon Ranges, or are visitors here.

All areas of Council have a responsibility to work with the community to make a better place for people with disability to live and work.

The Plan includes ideas and views from people with disability and their families, carers and service providers.

The Plan is in line with government laws and policies.

### **It looks at ways to:**

- make it easier for people with disability to access goods, services and facilities
- make it easier for people with disability to get jobs and keep them
- have a community where people with disability can take part
- have a community where people with disability are welcomed.

**Council will look at how well we implement the actions in the Plan.**

**We will report this back to the community and will ask for ideas for future plans.**

## **People with disability in our area**

In a survey held in 2021, 2,614 people in the Macedon Ranges said they need help in their day-to-day lives due to disability. This is around one in every 20 people.

In the same survey, 5,878 people said they were carers for other people who need help.

## **Council roles**

Council is responsible for many services that are important to people with disability:

- We plan and look after footpaths and roads, community buildings, parks, playgrounds and sport and leisure facilities.
- We plan and deliver services such as health services for mothers and babies, immunisations, playgroups, youth services, libraries, events and entertainment.
- We provide information to the community.
- We employ people in a lot of different types of work.

## **In 2023/24, Council will work to have:**

- more accessible car parking
- footpaths that are safer, where they are needed most
- better access to the buildings that Council owns or manages
- more information to help people find out about access to places in the shire
- grants (funds) to projects that include people with disability
- a celebration of International Day of People with Disability
- new ways to support carers
- more choice of activities for young people with disability
- plans for people with disability to have better access to housing that meets their needs
- more open spaces and parks that can be used by all members of the community
- support for people with disability to be well-prepared for emergencies
- clubs and community groups being accessible and welcoming for all people
- children with disability having the support they need to attend kindergartens and schools
- more Changing Places and fully accessible public toilets - if funding is available
- our staff having a better understanding of disability and inclusion
- our staff knowing more ways to make our community inclusive
- more opportunities for people with disability to work or volunteer for Council

- Council offering support to businesses and other groups to offer employment and volunteering opportunities to people with disability
- better networks across Council to support our work on inclusion for people with disability
- increased networks with people with disability and their families, carers, supporters and service providers, so we can get their ideas and views for Council policy and planning
- more information about ways we can provide customer service to be most accessible to people with disability.