
**DISABILITY INCLUSION & ACCESS COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
WEDNESDAY, 1 APRIL 2026 COMMENCING AT 4:00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Shari Blumer (Chair), Councillor Laurie Testoni, Geoff Tarr (via zoom) (Community Representative), Ralph Twaddell (Community Representative), Soheil Derakhshan (Community Representative), Suzanne Biondo (Community Representative), Lindsay Wickey (Community Representative)

Quorum = 3

STAFF

Director Economic & Organisational Development, Shireen Donaldson, Community Development Coordinator, Melissa Canzian, Community Development Officer, Viviana Degenkamp and Minute Secretary, Antoinette Galluzzo

1 APOLOGIES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Laurie Testoni and Lindsay Wickey that apologies be received from Project Planner, Melanie Vella, Urban Strategic Design & Major Projects Manager, Peter Badenhorst, Jaimee Damini (Community Representative), Rocco Catanzariti (Community Representative), Dene Beltrame (Community Representative), Jodie Ridge (Community Representative) and Marilyn Hams (Community Representative).

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Laurie Testoni and Lindsay Wickey that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 November 2025, having first been circulated amongst all members, be confirmed.

3 BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Ms Canzian provided the Committee with an update on the event, which was well attended and considered a great success.

3.2 Side Gate at the Community Centre

Ms Wickey requested an update, to which Ms Donaldson replied it is still under investigation. Ms Wickey to send photos of gate to staff.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary Interests

Members making a pecuniary interest declaration are required to leave the meeting during consideration of the matter and not return until the matter is resolved.

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members making a significant non-pecuniary interest declaration are required to leave the meeting during consideration of the matter and not return until the matter is resolved.

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

Less Than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members making a less than significant non-pecuniary interest declaration may stay in the meeting and participate in the debate and vote on the matter.

There were no less than significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

5 ITEMS OF BUSINESS

CL01 NEW DISABILITY INCLUSION ACTION PLAN

The Committee reviewed the Disability Inclusion Action Plan, considering the document page by page, engaging in thorough discussion, and making amendments to the document.

The Committee suggested inviting the Bus Lines Company to a future Committee meeting to have a discussion and ask questions regarding accessible transport.

The Committee also discussed the importance of carers who provide assistance to those with a disability and to raise awareness.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Shari Blumer and Lindsay Wickey that the Committee invite Carers Australia to Griffith in the third quarter of the year to have an event focusing on carers.

Councillor Blumer asked when the irrigation system is being installed at Lake Wyangan. This was **TAKEN ON NOTICE** by Ms Donaldson.

Councillor Blumer also suggested promoting that there is an adult change table at Lake Wyangan.

Soheil Derakhshan joined the meeting at 4:34pm.

Ms Canzian left the meeting at 4:55pm.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Suzanne Biondo and Lindsay Wickey that:

- (a) Council endorse the draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2026–2030 incorporating the amendments arising from public consultation and community feedback received between November 2025 and February 2026.
- (b) Council place the draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2026–2030 on public exhibition

for a period of 28 days.

- (c) Following the public exhibition period, a report be provided to Council for final adoption of the Plan.
- (d) The Committee note the report and amendments made.

CL02 KURRAJONG LIFESTYLE CHOICES

This agenda item has been deferred to the next Committee Meeting.

CL03 COMMITTEE APPLICATION

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Lindsay Wickey and Councillor Shari Blumer that the Committee accept Debbie Honeychurch as a member of the Disability, Inclusion and Access Committee, and the Terms of Reference be updated.

6 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

Ms Donaldson advised the Committee from the action item arising from 19 November 2025 regarding modifications to the accessibility of bathroom facilities at Olympic Street Community Centre, noting that the estimated cost of works is approximately \$50,000 - \$100,000, with operational implications under investigation.

The Committee noted the report.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

8 ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2026-2030 (under separate cover)

9 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Disability Inclusion & Access Committee is to be held on Wednesday, 17 June 2026 at 4:00pm.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 5:24pm.