

DISABILITY ACCESS AND INCLUSION

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1. OBJECTIVE

To provide equity of access to a wide range of information, services and facilities provided for the community by the City.

2. PRINCIPLES

The City of Karratha is committed to building inclusive and connected communities. Our Disability Access and Inclusion Plan demonstrates how we are working with the community to ensure all people have equal access to a range of services and facilities in our City.

Each public authority is required to develop, implement and regularly review its Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) as a means of furthering the principles and objectives of the *WA Disability Services Act 1993 (amended in 2004)*.

The City of Karratha is required to lodge its Disability Access and Inclusion Plan with the Disabilities Services Commission in July 2012. Council is now requested to consider its adoption of the plan to enable this legal requirement to be met.

In accordance with s.38(3) of the *Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 2006*, Council will report on the implementation of the Plan in its annual reports.

2.1 Policy Provisions

The City of Karratha is committed to ensuring that the community is an accessible and inclusive community for people with disabilities, their families and carers.

The City of Karratha believes that people with disabilities, their families and carers who live in country areas should be supported to remain in the community of their choice.

The City of Karratha is committed to consulting with people with disabilities, their families and carers and where required, disability organisations to ensure that barriers to access and inclusion are addressed appropriately.

The City of Karratha interprets an accessible and inclusive community as one in which all council functions, facilities and services (both in-house and contracted) are open, available and accessible to people with disabilities, providing them with the same opportunities, rights and responsibilities enjoyed by all other people in the community and will progressively work to achieving this outcome.

The City of Karratha recognises that people with disabilities are valued members of the community who make a variety of contributions to local social, economic and cultural life. The City believes that a community that recognises its diversity and supports the participation and inclusion of all of its members makes for a richer community life.

The City of Karratha is committed to ensuring that its agents and contractors work towards the desired outcomes in the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan.

The City of Karratha is committed to working in partnership with local community groups and businesses to facilitate the inclusion of people with disabilities through improved access to facilities and services in the community.

3. CONSEQUENCES

This policy represents the formal policy and expected standards of the Council. Appropriate approvals need to be obtained prior to any deviation from the policy. Elected Members and Employees are reminded of their obligations under the Council's Code of Conduct to give full effect to the lawful policies, decisions and practices of the Council.

4. REFERENCES TO RELATED DOCUMENTS

- City of Karratha's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2012 - 2016

Policy Number:	CS-15
Previous Policy Number:	N/A
Resolution Numbers:	14225-Oct 2007; 152090-Jun 2012
Last Review:	June 2012
Next Review:	June 2015
Responsible Officer:	Manager Partnerships and Engagement

This Policy takes effect from the date of adoption by Council and shall remain valid until it is amended or deleted.