

Process for Reviewing the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) 2020 - 2025

The DAIP is in the process of review. The review will investigate and highlight the DAIP's implementation, ensure it has captured on its progress early on in the plan, stakeholders' involvement and how it has engaged and enable for more effective DAIP. The key features of the DAIP are listed below:

1. Provide a means of ensuring that people with disability have the same opportunities as others to access the services of, and any event organised by the Shire of Cocos Keeling Islands.
2. Provide a means of ensuring that people with disability have the same opportunities as others to access buildings and other facilities of the Shire of Cocos Keeling Islands.
3. Provide a means of ensuring that people with disability receive information from the Shire in a format that will enable them to access information as readily as others are able to.
4. Provide a means of ensuring that people with disability receive the same level and quality of service from the staff of the Shire of Cocos Keeling Islands as other people.
5. Provide a means of ensuring that people with disability have the same opportunities as others to make complaints to the Shire of Cocos Keeling Islands.
6. Provide a means of ensuring that people with disability have the same opportunities as others to participate in any public consultation with the Shire of Cocos Keeling Islands.
7. People with disability have the same opportunities to obtain and maintain employment with the Shire of Cocos Keeling Islands.

Proposed Timeframe of Review

- Pre-engagement meeting to discuss the Community Engagement Plan, identify risks and Legislative requirements with the Shire Councillors and Shire Executive Team.
- Council Agenda to approve the Community Engagement Plan – DAIP Review.
- Commencement of the review in February 2024.
- Community Survey distributed in February and closes end of March 2024.
- Information Sessions with community, community groups to be conducted in March 2024. Undertaken by the Chief Executive Officer, Manager of Infrastructure and the Community Development Coordinator.
- Collating the survey results, feedback from the community info sessions into first draft, May 2024
- Review Objectives in the current DAIP and merge the new information.

- Final draft for Council’s adoption in July 2024. It is expected that the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) 2025-2030 adopted. Any financial commitments to be captured in the 2024/2025 Financial Year Budget.

The review is a chance to measure the progress against the goals, provide feedback on what supports are or the constraints of the Shire, explore and set new goals.

Annual Reporting Requirements

The Shire reports on the implementation of its DAIP through its Annual Report and progress reporting to the Department of Communities each year outlining:

- Progress towards the desired outcomes of its DAIP
- The strategies used to inform agents and contractors of its DAIP

Who undertakes the review?

Your review will be conducted by the Community Development Coordinator. For children aged up to six years old, most plan reviews will be conducted by the Community Development Officer - Youth and Recreation in person with the families, carers, key stakeholders etc.

For participants 65 years and above plan reviews will be conducted by the Community Development Coordinator face-to-face for interpretation.

The review committee will discuss the DAIP with key stakeholders (internal/external) on the processes and timeframes.

Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) Questionnaire. The Shire of Cocos Keeling Islands is seeking feedback on all aspects of its Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) for 2020 -2025. The DAIP sets out the Shire’s commitment to making our community a welcoming and inclusive place for everyone to enjoy.

Community Questionnaire

By completing this questionnaire, you can help us identify any issues of access and inclusion that affect yourself, your family and carers. Please complete this questionnaire and return it to the Shire by no later than 4:00pm, 30th August 2024.

Should you have any questions and would like to discuss any concern you may have about access and inclusion, please call the Chief Executive Officer during office on (08) 9162 6649 or email frank.mills@cocos.wa.gov.au

1. Are the services and events organised by the Shire accessible for you? No/Yes

COMMENT

2. Are the Shire buildings and facilities easy to get into and out of? No/Yes

COMMENT

3. Is information from the Shire provided in a way that enables you to access it readily? No/Yes

COMMENT

4. Does the Shire's staff give quality services that meet your expectations and needs? No/Yes

COMMENT

5. Are complaints about the Shire easy to lodge? No/Yes

COMMENT

6. Is public consultation by the Shire of Cocos Keeling Islands done in a format and/or place to enable your attendance? No/Yes

COMMENT

7. Does the Shire have equal employment opportunities for people with disability? No/Yes

COMMENT

The Shire of Cocos Keeling Islands thanks you in anticipation for completing this questionnaire.

Disability Access Inclusion Plan FAQs

The most frequent questions asked:

- **Why do we have a Disability Access and Inclusion Plan?**

The Western Australian Disability Services Act (1993) requires Local Government authorities to develop and implement disability service plans to ensure that people with disabilities, like other members of the community, can access services provided by public authorities in Western Australia.

The Shire of Cocos Keeling Islands commenced the development of the plan in November 2019 and adopted their Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) in 2020. The consultation was comprehensive with the key stakeholders, community and the Shire's Executive Team all provided valuable input.

- **Why is the Shire conducting public consultation on the DAIP?**

The Shire is keen to hear from its community and to speak with those with access needs. This includes people with disability and/or carers of people with disability, as well as people and organisations working to improve access and inclusion.

The Shire of Cocos Keeling Islands is committed to ensuring that people with disability, their family and carers can access Council facilities, functions and services. The DAIP is available at www.Shire.cc or a paper copy may be obtained from the Shire office, Jalan Melati Home Island Cocos Keeling Islands WA 6799.

- **What are the key elements of a DAIP?**

The key element of a DAIP focuses on seven key outcome areas:

- 1. Services and events*
- 2. Access to buildings and facilities*
- 3. Receiving information*
- 4. Quality of service provided by the Shire to people with disability*
- 5. Opportunity to provide feedback/complaints*
- 6. Participate in consultation processes*
- 7. Access to employment*

- **What is the lifespan for a DAIP?**

What is the lifespan for a DAIP? The DAIP will identify a series of actions that can be implemented by the Shire of Cocos Keeling Islands across the next five-years (2025 - 2030) with an annual reporting on how these actions have been delivered.

- **How can I get involved with improving access and inclusion in our community?**

To achieve a DAIP that reflects the needs of our community, we are providing the following ways for you to input into the plan:

Written feedback to the Shire.

The DAIP will focus on the functions and services provided by the Shire of Cocos Keeling Islands and the needs of its residents, businesses and visitors who require access and inclusion in the delivery of our services.

The DAIP will assist the Shire of the Cocos Keeling Islands to plan for improvements and to ensure that people with disability have equal access and inclusion across all Council controlled buildings, facilities and services. The DAIP aims to benefit people with disability, the elderly, young parents and access for prams as well as people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Local governments play a vital role in the lives of people with disability because of their broad mandate. Unlike most state government authorities, local governments are multi-functional, with extensive responsibilities and activities across property, community and human service areas and, in addition, have the capacity to make policy choices at the local level.

The Western Australian Disability Services Act (1993) requires Local Government authorities to develop and implement disability service plans to ensure that people with disabilities, like other members of the community, can access services provided by public authorities in Western Australia.

To improve access for people with disabilities, the Shire of Cocos Keeling Islands is constantly reviewing its' Disability Access and Inclusion Plan, (DAIP).

The Shire is committed to achieving the seven standards of its Disability Access and Inclusion Plan which are as follow:

We are interested to hear your thoughts regarding how the Shire can improve access to its services, facilitates and information.

You can assist the Shire in the following ways:

- Provide written feedback
- Complete the Community Questionnaire
- Phone the Shire for a conversation about access and inclusion.

For further information, please contact us with any enquiries or feedback you may have. Please phone the Shire on (08) 91 62 6649 or email: frank.mills@cocos.wa.gov.au. Our Office Hours are: Monday to Thursday 7:00am to 4:00pm, and 7.00am to 12.00pm Friday only. Address: PO Box 1094, Home Island, Cocos Keeling Islands WA 6799.