

Thepottershous

C H R I S T I A N C E N T R E

Penrith Valley, NSW

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The Disability Discrimination Commissioner
Mr. G Innes AM
Australian Human Rights Commission
GPO Box 5218
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr. Innes

DISABILITY ACCESS PLAN - THE POTTERS HOUSE CHRISTIAN CENTRE PENRITH

I trust this letter finds you well.

I refer to the attached letter from John Van der Have from Bio-Building Design regarding the Disability Action Plan he has prepared for our church in respect to the current premises we occupy at Level 1, 519 High Street, Penrith.

I would appreciate your assistance in lodging and registering the attached Disability Action Plan with the Commission in terms of Section 61 and 64 of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

If you wish to further discuss this proposition, please feel free to contact me on 0404 266 538.

Yours sincerely



Jay Hounslow
Pastor
Potter House Christian Fellowship
Level 1, 519 High Street
Penrith NSW 2747

BIO-BUILDING DESIGN

Pty Limited ABN 67 002 764 196
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26th May 2009

Mr J Hounslow
23 Windemere Avenue
CAMBRIDGE PARK NSW 2747

Dear Mr Hounslow,

**DISABILITY ACCESS PLAN
THE POTTER'S HOUSE CHRISTIAN CENTRE
LEVEL 1, 519 HIGH STREET, PENRITH**

Further to recent discussions, I have inspected the above premises.

I advise that, in order to satisfy Council's relevant condition of consent, the attached Disability Action Plan should be lodged with the Australian Human Rights Commission. This will result in the Australian Human Rights Commission placing the Potter's House Christian Centre on its register.

Registering the Disability Action Plan requires a covering letter from you asking the Disability Discrimination Commissioner, Mr G Innes AM, to register the plan. The Disability Action Plan should be registered in terms of Sections 61 and 64 of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

The Commission's address is:

Australian Human Rights Commission, GPO Box 5218, Sydney 2001.

It would be appreciated by the Commission if you could provide an electronic version of the Disability Action Plan. This may be emailed to: disabdis@humanrights.gov.au. I will separately send a copy of the plan to you by email.

Upon registration of the Disability Action Plan by the Human Rights Commission, you should notify Penrith Council to this effect.

If any clarification is required, please contact the undersigned.

Yours faithfully

BIO-BUILDING DESIGN PTY LTD


John Van der Have M Sc (Bldg)

Access Consultant,

Accredited Member, Association of Consultants in Access, Australia

Encl

_____ **design for health and safety** _____

Principal: John Van der Have, B.Arch., M. Sc. (Bldg), ACAA, Affil AIBS, Access Consultant

**DISABILITY ACCESS PLAN
THE POTTER'S HOUSE CHRISTIAN CENTRE
LEVEL 1, 519 HIGH STREET, PENRITH**

1. BACKGROUND

The Potter's House Christian Centre is a Church with presently a small number of members who meet at premises at Level 1, 519 high Street, Penrith. The number of members who meet there regularly is less than 20.

The premises main entry is from High Street, from which a flight of stairs leads to Level 1. The stairs are of 300mm going x 180mm riser. From High Street, there is a flight of 14 risers, then a landing of 1070mm length, followed by another flight of 10 risers. The stairs are of 1340mm width, with handrails both sides. At Level 1 there is a foyer area of dimensions approximately 3000mm x 4150mm, from which a swing door of width 1200mm leads to the Potter's House meeting room.

The Potter's House holds development consent from Penrith City Council for use of the premises.

2. DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION ACT

The Disability Discrimination Act 1991 (DDA) makes it unlawful to discriminate in the provision of goods, services or facilities against people on the basis that they have, or may have, a disability.

Specifically, Sections 23(1)(a) and (c) of the DDA render it unlawful to discriminate against a person by refusing to allow that person access, or the use of, any premises that the public is entitled to enter or use.

3. BARRIERS TO ACCESS

The entry stairs to the premises represent a barrier to access for people who use wheelchairs. The existing sanitary facilities also are not accessible in terms of the requirements of AS 1428.1 - *Design for access and mobility Part 1: General requirements for access – New building work*.

4. ACTION PROPOSED TO ELIMINATE THE BARRIERS TO ACCESS

It is proposed to prevail upon the landlord of the premises to install an inclined platform lift within the present stairway. This inclined platform lift will, upon installation, enable people with mobility impairments to independently enter the premises.

It is also proposed to prevail upon the landlord of the premises to provide sanitary facilities to at least the standard required by AS 1428.1.

The proposed timeframe is to have this work undertaken is within 5 years.

5. EVALUATION

This Action Plan will be reviewed after five years to assess its success.