## Disability Action Plan

**Hume City Council is proud to be advancing the commitment to participation and wellbeing of people with disabilities.**

In accordance with the Disability Discrimination Act 1992, the Victorian Disability Act 2006, and the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006, Hume City Council has prepared the Council Plan 2017–2021 to incorporate the requirements of the Disability Action Plan.

Under Section 38(1) of the Victorian Disability Act 2006, a public sector body must ensure that a Disability Action Plan is prepared for the purpose of:

(a) reducing barriers to persons with a disability accessing goods, services and facilities;

(b) reducing barriers to persons with a disability obtaining and maintaining employment;

(c) promoting inclusion and participation in the community of persons with a disability;

(d) achieving tangible changes in attitudes and practices which discriminate against persons

with a disability.

In accordance with Section 38(5) of the Victorian Disability Act 2006, the development of the

Council Plan ensures “that the matters referred to in subsection (1) [outlined above] are addressed in the Council Plan prepared under the Local Government Act 1989”.

Since the adoption of the Hume Social Justice Charter in 2001, Hume City Council has been a leader in promoting access and inclusion for all. Incorporating Disability Action Planning into the Council Plan 2017–2021 is a commitment to ensure the practical implementation of actions and achievements that can be monitored by Council and the community.

**DISABILITY IN HUME CITY**

According to the 2016 Census, there were 7,238 Hume City residents aged 0–64 years and 5,201 residents aged 65 years or older, who identified as requiring a need for assistance with core activities.

This equates to 6.3 per cent of Hume residents that have a need for assistance with day-today activities including self-care, mobility and communication because of a disability, long- term health condition (lasting six months or more) or old age.

In comparison to other Melbourne Metropolitan Councils, Hume City Council has the highest proportion of residents aged 0–64 years and fifth highest proportion of residents aged 65 years or older who identified as requiring a need for assistance with core activities.

The proportion of Greater Melbourne residents who identified as requiring a need for assistance with core activities is 4.9 per cent (ABS, 2016 Census).

Suburbs within Hume City with the highest proportions of population requiring a need for assistance with core activities are Coolaroo (12.1 per cent), Campbellfield (10.6 per cent), Meadow Heights (9.3 per cent), Dallas (8.5 per cent) and Broadmeadows (8.5 per cent).

While these areas typically have ageing communities, the area of Sunbury has the highest proportion of young people (aged 5-19 years) with a need for assistance with core activities at 5.0 per cent, compared to 3.4 per cent for Hume City and 2.8 per cent for Greater Melbourne.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics statistical areas (SA2s) of Broadmeadows (also includes Jacana), Campbellfield – Coolaroo (also includes Dallas and Fawkner) and Meadow Heights have the three highest proportions of residents aged 0-64 years identified as requiring a need for assistance with core activities of all SA2s in Metropolitan Melbourne.

At 30 June 2017, Council had issued almost 14,000 Disability Parking Permits. During 2016/17, through Council’s Community Care program, more than 37,000 hours of care (personal care, domestic assistance and respite care) was provided to approximately 480 community members with a temporary or permanent disability under the age of 65.

In addition, Council’s Commonwealth Home Support Program was funded to provide 72,052 hours of care (personal care, domestic assistance and respite care) to people over the age of 65 during 2016/17.

Council is currently in the process of assisting eligible community members (with a temporary or permanent disability under the age of 65) to transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) by May 2019, and is expecting a decision from the State Government on the future of funding service provision for clients not eligible for the NDIS.

### **Council Plan Actions**

It is recognised that all Council activities and services actively consider and comply with the Victorian Disability Act 2006. However, the Council Plan provides a number of specific actions that directly target outcomes for people with disabilities. These highlights include:

### **2018/19 Disability Actions:**

1.1.2 Continue to support and encourage participation in playgroups including:

* Supporting the establishment of, and ongoing facilitation for community-led playgroups
* Promote the participation of children with disabilities across all playgroups.

1.1.5 Continue to promote the Hume Volunteer Gateway including:

* Deliver the Tax Help Program
* Volunteering week activities that thank and celebrate Hume’s volunteers and promote the service to volunteers and host organisations
* Promoting volunteering opportunities at Council events and festivals.

1.1.5 Provide student placement and apprenticeship programs through Council services to support youth employment outcomes including support for those with disabilities and from diverse backgrounds.

1.1.5 Implement activities developed from the Employment Pathways Action Plan including:

* Provision of a Youth PATH Program with Hume businesses to provide work experience for jobseekers.
* Implementation of a regional Melbourne’s North Joblink portal.

1.2.2 Support local businesses and service providers to employ Hume residents through the Local Jobs for Local People program.

2.1.1 Support sports development through the provision of pavilion upgrades and implement the Sports Pavilion Plan including:

* Construction of DS Aitken, Roxburgh Park Social Rooms, Aston, Arena, Craigieburn Tennis Club, Willowbrook Reserve, and John McMahon pavilions
* Commence scoping works for Bulla Village Tennis Club, Greenvale Equestrian and Seth Raistrick pavilions.

2.1.2 Continue to enhance Council’s walking and cycling networks, including:

* Network upgrades.

2.2.1 Undertake initiatives, promotion and community engagement for emergency preparedness such as Fire Action Week and heat waves.

2.2.2 Implement road safety and driver education programs in partnership with stakeholders including flexible and accessible programs for people with disabilities to learn to drive.

3.1.1 Continue support for community groups including:

* Delivery and annual review of the community grants program
* Training and promotions to community groups, on how to apply for both Council and non-Council grant opportunities.

3.1.1 Continue to deliver a range of leadership training programs to build the capacity and governance of local community and environmental groups.

3.1.2 Undertake actions to maximise use of facilities, ensuring equitable and appropriate access.

3.1.4 Undertake accessibility works at Council facilities.

3.2.1 Deliver and evaluate Council’s major events and festivals.

3.2.1 Increase participation in arts and cultural activities through:

* Support community groups and individuals to access and participate in the Arts and Cultural Program
* A program of Professional Development for arts and cultural groups/ individuals.

4.1.1 Advocate for the provision/ improvement of local social/public housing including areas surrounding the Broadmeadows Town Centre.

5.1.4 Deliver professional development programs for Council staff, including the Leadership Development Program (LDP) and access and diversity training.

5.2.1 Facilitate advisory committees/ reference groups to foster community leadership and increase community capacity in engaging with Council decision making processes including:

* Disability Partnerships Network.

5.2.3 Implement the Communications and Advocacy Service Plan including the audit and review of Council’s external signage.

5.3.2 Continue to work with and advocate to both the State and Federal Government for the timely provision of services and infrastructure, including:

* Participating in State Government planning for school provision
* Health services and facilities in the Hume North Growth Corridor.

Disability Action Plan priority areas have been highlighted throughout the main body of Council Plan.

These actions will be monitored and reviewed, and consistent with the requirements of the Act, progress and outcomes will be recorded through the *Hume City Council Annual Report* (and through Council Plan Quarterly Reporting).

**HumeLink**

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**We welcome your feedback**

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