# All Abilities Queensland

## Opportunities for all

## State disability plan 2017–2020

### Easy Read version

## How to use this document

This information is written in an easy to read way.

This document has been written by the Queensland Government. When you see the word ‘we’, it means the Queensland Government.

Some words are written in **bold**. We explain what these words mean. There is a list of these words on page 19.

This Easy Read document is a summary of another document.

You can find the other document on our website at [www.communities.qld.gov.au/disability/community-involvement/disability-state-plan-2017-2020](http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/disability/community-involvement/disability-state-plan-2017-2020)

You can ask for help to read this document. A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

## What’s in this document?

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## What is this document about?

We want to make Queensland a place where people with disability:

* are respected
* have the same opportunities as everyone else.

Our State Disability Plan 2017–2020 explains   
how we can make Queensland **inclusive** – people with disability:

* can take part
* are welcomed
* are involved.

We call it the Plan.

To make the Plan a success, Queenslanders need to work together with:

* Commonwealth and local governments
* businesses
* non-government organisations
* communities
* individuals.

This Plan also shows Queensland’s commitment to:

* the *National Disability Strategy 2010–2020*
* the rollout of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Minister O’Rourke is excited about:

* the Plan
* the changes it will make for people with disability.

## How we wrote the Plan

Over 1000 Queenslanders told us what our Plan should include.

People shared their ideas:

* at the Queensland Disability Conference in August 2016
* by responding to the *Towards an all abilities Queensland*   
  consultation paper
* by taking part in discussions.

Their ideas helped us make our Plan.

We will keep working together to make positive changes   
throughout Queensland.

### Our goal

The Plan’s goal is – *opportunities for all Queenslanders.*

The goal links to:

* what people told us in the consultation
* the aim of the *National Disability Strategy 2010–2020 –* to help people with disability achieve their **potential** *–* what someone can become and achieve.

The Plan recognises that Queenslanders with disability have different:

* backgrounds
* values
* beliefs
* experiences
* interests
* skills
* abilities.

It will work to help all Queenslanders with disability, including:

* Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
* people from other cultures
* people who speak languages other than English.

It is good for everyone when communities are:

* **inclusive** – people with disability can take part, are welcomed,   
  and involved
* **accessible** – you can:
  + enter a place or building
  + use a service
  + get information.

Everyone has a part to play in making Queensland a place where we can achieve our potential.

This includes:

* all local, state and Commonwealth Governments
* businesses
* non-government organisations
* community groups
* individuals.

All Queenslanders can get involved to create equal opportunities for all.

To help people understand what life is like for people with disability, we have created a new website that includes:

* stories
* resources
* information.

### Structure of the Plan

The Plan has 5 important areas to help us achieve our goal:

* Communities for all
* Lifelong learning
* Employment
* Everyday services
* Leadership and participation.

We call these our **priority areas**.

The Plan includes actions we will take in each area.

We will also work with others to make these actions happen.

## Priority areas

### Communities for all

**Goal**

We want people with disability, in their community, to feel:

* welcomed
* valued
* respected.

We want Queenslanders with disability to be included and able to **access**:

* community events
* sports
* arts
* fun activities.

**Access** means you can enter a place or use a service.

**What we will do**

We will:

* support communities to be:
  + inclusive
  + welcoming
* help Queenslanders with disability take part in their community
* recognise diversity, including:
  + Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
  + people from other cultures
  + people who speak a language other than English
* put time and effort into making arts, sport and other fun activities:
  + easy to get to by people   
    with disability
  + inclusive.

We will encourage positive ways of thinking about people with disability by:

* helping businesses and community groups to welcome   
  people with disability
* promoting examples of people with disability being active in   
  their community
* encouraging people with disability to share their stories about being part of their community.

We will also work with others to:

* make places and spaces easy for people with disability to get to
* make sure information is:
  + easy to find and understand
  + available in different formats and languages.

We will also:

* make a new website that has information to help businesses   
  and organisations
* put time and effort into ideas that benefit older people, including those with disability
* make sure all our information and documents are easy to find   
  and understand.
* support services who speak up for people with disability during the rollout of the NDIS
* make it easier for women with disability to access good   
  information about:
  + their options when they are thinking about motherhood
  + services that can help them look after their own health or the health of a baby.

**How we will know we are making a difference**

We will know we are making a difference when:

* people are welcoming towards people with disability
* the rights of people with disability are:
  + understood
  + respected
* places in our community are accessible to all Queenslanders
* it is easy to find and understand information in many formats
* Queenslanders with disability are able to take part in fun activities.

### Lifelong learning

**Goal**

We want Queenslanders with disability to have the same opportunities as other people to:

* get an education at school and training for jobs
* keep learning their whole life – lifelong learning.

**What we will do**

Inclusive learning gives people with disability more opportunities to take part in:

* work
* their community.

To help Queenslanders with disability access lifelong learning, we   
will support:

* students
* teachers
* parents
* carers.

We will also:

* run the *Disability Inclusion Support for Queensland   
  Kindergartens* program
* encourage Queenslanders with disability to enrol in training programs.

**How we will know we are making a difference**

We will know we are making a difference when education services:

* are more accessible
* meet the needs of Queenslanders with disability.

This will help people with disability of all ages achieve their learning goals.

### Employment

**Goal**

We want Queenslanders with disability to have better opportunities to find work and jobs.

**What we will do**

Having a job is an important way to take part in the **economy** – earning money and spending money on buying things and using services.

It is also important for:

* a person’s health and wellbeing
* building friendships and connections.

We will work with others to give people with disability better opportunities to find work and jobs across Queensland.

We will also:

* work towards having more people with disability working in Queensland Government jobs.
* change the way that we employ and   
  keep staff
* tell businesses and employers about:
  + the benefits of employing people with disability
  + the assistance available
  + how to make employment processes more accessible.

**How we will know we are making a difference**

We will know we are making a difference when more Queenslanders with disability are working:

* in Queensland Government jobs
* in businesses and organisations across Queensland.

### Everyday services

**Goal**

We want Queenslanders with disability to have the same opportunities as everyone else to use services like:

* housing
* health
* transport
* community services
* justice and community safety

We want these services to:

* be accessible
* meet people’s needs.

**What we will do**

We need to make sure:

* everyone can access the services we provide
* our services meet people’s needs.

We will:

* make it easier for people with disability to get to and use our services
* make sure our services work well with the supports that people get from the NDIS.
* make sure our services are suited to the specific needs of:
  + Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
  + people from other cultures
  + people who speak a language other than English.

We will also:

* provide housing that suits people with disability
* keep working to make Queensland’s public buses, trains and   
  ferries accessible
* work with the National Disability Insurance Agency to provide a smooth transition to the NDIS
* help disability service providers support:
  + Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with disability
  + people with disability from other cultures
* put into place the *Queensland Violence against Women Prevention Plan 2016-22*.
* support women with disability who are living or dealing with violence.

**How we will know we are making a difference**

We will know we are making a difference when our services:

* are accessible
* meet the needs of Queenslanders with disability.

### Leadership and participation

**Goal**

We want Queenslanders with disability to be involved in:

* how Queensland is run
* decision-making
* leadership roles in government and businesses.

**What we will do**

People with disability have important:

* experiences
* knowledge
* ideas.

We want people with disability to:

* be involved in leadership
* have their say on important community issues.

When we are planning new policies and programs, we will ask people with disability what they think.

We will also:

* promote leadership **diversity** – people of all abilities and cultures   
  are included
* develop and support current leaders and leaders of the future.

We will also:

* talk to people with disability when we are:
  + developing a *Disability Service Plan*
  + carrying out actions in the *Disability Service Plan*
* support the disability advisory councils around Queensland to:
  + help people understand what life is like for people with disability
  + promote the benefits of inclusion
  + get people talking about how to include people with disability.

**How we will know we are making a difference**

We will know we are making a difference when Queenslanders   
with disability:

* can have their say on important community issues
* can take part in decision-making
* are in leadership positions in our:
  + organisations
  + businesses
  + communities.

## The Plan’s timeframe

This is a 3-year plan.

The Plan will start in July 2017 and end in June 2020.

## Making sure progress is being made

To make sure real progress is being made, we will keep working with:

* Queenslanders with disability
* families and carers
* governments
* businesses
* community organisations.

We will look at each action to make sure we are on track to achieving   
our goals.

We will write progress reports that will include any updates we need to make to the plan.

The Queensland and Regional Disability Advisory Councils will tell us what Queenslanders with disability think about how the plan is going.

## Word list

**Access**

You can enter a place or use a service.

**Diversity**

People of all abilities and cultures are included.

**Economy**

Earning money and spending money on buying things and using services.

**Inclusive**

People with disability:

* can take part
* are welcomed
* are involved.

**Potential**

What someone can become and achieve.

**Priority areas**

The 5 areas of our Plan:

* Communities for all
* Lifelong learning
* Employment
* Everyday services
* Leadership and participation.

## Contact us

**13 74 68**

[towardsanallabilitiesqld@communities.qld.gov.au](mailto:towardsanallabilitiesqld@communities.qld.gov.au)

Policy and Legislation

Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services

GPO Box 806

Brisbane Qld 4001

This Easy Read document was created by the Information Access Group. For any enquiries, please visit [www.informationaccessgroup.com](http://www.informationaccessgroup.com). Quote job number 2657.