Riverland Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2026-2030

Berri Barmera COUNCIL

District Council of Loxton Waikerie

Renmark Paringa Council

Simplified Version

Acknowledgement of Country

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the First Peoples of Australia.

The First Peoples of the River Murray and Mallee Region are the Traditional Owners of the land.

They have always looked after the land, water and all living things.

We respect their Elders from the past and now.
We will work together to make our communities fair, respectful and welcoming for everyone.

How to use this document

This document is written in an easy way.

It uses:

- short sentences
- simple words
- pictures to help explain ideas

Some pages have:

- bold words
- we explain what these words mean
- there is a list of these words on pages 14 and 15.

You can:

- read this document by yourself
- read it with a friend, family member, or support person

Take your time when reading.

You can find our plan on our website:
https://www.berribarmera.sa.gov.au/your-council/strategies,-plans-and-by-laws/daip

What is in this plan?

About this plan	5
Who we are	5
What council does	6
What we want	7
What you told us	8
What we will do	10
When this will happen	13
Word list	14

About this plan

This plan helps make our community fair for everyone

We want people with **disability** to feel welcome and included

Who we are

We are three **Riverland Councils** working together

We support people who live, work and visit here

What council does

We look after things like roads, footpaths, parks and playgrounds

We also run libraries and sport centres

We help make places safe, clean and easy to use

What we want

We want a community where:

- People with disability can take part in everyday life
- Everyone feels welcome and included
- People feel safe, valued and respected

We want:

- Places that are easy to get to and use
- Information that is easy to read and understand
- Services that support people to live their way

We will:

- Work with people with disability and carers
- Listen to what people need
- Find and remove **barriers**

We want people to:

- Feel independent
- Have choice and control
- Be part of their community

What you told us

We spoke to people with disability and the community. This is what you told us:

Getting around

- Some paths and places are hard to use
- There is not enough accessible parking and toilets
- Some buildings are hard to get into

Feeling included

- Not everyone feels included
- People want to be listened to
- People want others to understand disability

Information and having a say

- Information is not always easy to find or understand
- People want **Easy Read** and different ways to get information
- People want to be involved in decisions

What you told us

Jobs and volunteering

- It can be hard to find jobs or volunteer roles
- People want more support and opportunities

Support and community

- It can be hard to find services
- Transport can be difficult
- People want to feel part of the community

Safety

- Some places feel unsafe
- People want clear and simple emergency information

What we will do

We will make our community easier for everyone to use.

1. Make events easy for everyone to enjoy

   We will check events for **accessibility** and share equipment so everyone can take part.

2. Make buildings, parks and public spaces easier to use

   We will fix paths, playgrounds, toilets, parking, and entrances.

3. Make it easy for people to have a say

   We will give Easy Read, talking or online ways to share ideas and show how they are used.

What we will do

4. Make websites and information easier to use

   We will use captions, Easy Read, and clear access information for events and facilities.

5. Help people with disability work at Council

   We will use fair hiring, flexible jobs, workplace support, and staff training.

6. Help people volunteer in the community

   We will tell people about roles, help with applications, and make volunteering easier.

What we will do

7. Make emergency information clear and easy to understand

   We will provide Easy Read info, use many ways to share it, and learn from past events.

8. Work together across the Riverland

   We will share advice, tools, and resources with other councils and partners.

9. Keep doing everyday actions to help everyone

   We will continue Easy Read info, accessible toilets, and wellbeing programs.

When this will happen

We will start now

This plan will run for four years

We will check our progress every 3 months

We will review the plan every year

Word List

This list explains what the **bold** words in this plan mean.

Disability

- A disability is a long-term condition that can make it harder to do some everyday things.
- Disabilities can be physical, intellectual, sensory, or mental health related.

Riverland Councils

- This means the three local councils in the Riverland: Loxton Waikerie, Berri Barmera, and Renmark Paringa Councils.
- They work together to make the region better for everyone.

Barriers

- These are things that stop people from taking part in the community.
- For example, a steep path, missing signs, or hard-to-read information.

Word List

Easy Read

- This is information that is simple to read and understand.
- It uses short sentences, pictures, and clear words.

Accessibility

- This means making places, services, information, and events easy for everyone to use.
- When something is accessible, it is easy to find and use things and travel around.