

Access and Inclusion in Darebin: Information for NDIS Service Providers

Purpose of this Document

This document has been developed to provide a consistent message to the growing number of National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) service providers in Darebin wanting to connect with Council.

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An Overview of the City of Darebin

Darebin's community is diverse in terms of culture, language, religion, socio-economic background, employment status, occupation and housing need. In 2019 the Estimated Resident Population for Darebin was 161,609.

- Between 30-35% of our community are born overseas, with the majority coming from: Italy, Greece, India, China, the United Kingdom and Vietnam
- There are 138 languages spoken in Darebin
- Approximately 7.8% of community members do not speak English well or at all
- Darebin is home to the largest proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders of the NEMA area
- One in five Darebin residents has a disability, of them 8,774 people need assistance with core activities.

More information about diversity, disability, employment, education and income in Darebin can be found at [profile.id](#) and on our [website](#).

Darebin City Council and the NDIS

Darebin City Council is not a registered NDIS service provider and must remain objective by providing equal support to service providers. Darebin City Council will not provide endorsements to any NDIS service providers for their NDIS programs or services, including through marketing or promotion.

Darebin City Council does not currently facilitate or participate in any NDIS service provider networks.

Promoting Events and Activities

If you would like to promote an event, you can upload it to the [Darebin Community Calendar](#).

Please note that Council staff will not attend or promote any activities or events that are held in venues who operate or own Electronic Gaming Machines (EGM). We also encourage you to say no to single use plastic at your events - see ['Plastic Free Darebin'](#) for more information and tips.

For any NDIS related enquiries contact the Local Area Coordinator in Darebin, Brotherhood of St Laurence (BSL)

Phone: 1300 BSLNDIS (1300 275 634)

Email: ndis.info@bsl.org.au

Address: 293 High Street, Preston

Council Roles and Boundaries under NDIS

- ✓ Council **will** remain objective and provide equal support to all disability service providers that need it.
- × Council **will not** provide endorsements to any service providers, programs or services, including through marketing or promotion.

Darebin Access and Inclusion Team

The Access and Inclusion Team sits within Community Participation and Development unit in the Aged and Disability department. When Council made the decision to cease service delivery to NDIS participants in 2016, Council committed to additional resourcing of the Access and Inclusion team to expand advocacy and planning roles that build capacity.

If you would like to get in touch with the Access and Inclusion Team, email disability.access@darebin.vic.gov.au or call the Council Officers below.

Access and Inclusion Team Roles

Senior Team Leader, Access and Inclusion

The Senior Team Leader Access and Inclusion provides leadership to the access and inclusion team and supports the organisation in the development and implementation of accessible and inclusive initiatives in Darebin. The role is responsible for monitoring the *Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP)*, and supports the administration of the *Darebin Disability Advisory Committee (DDAC)*.

Phone: 8470 8315

Community Development Officer, Access and Inclusion

The Community Development Officer Access and Inclusion engages with community members who have lived experience of disability. This officer also works with service providers and other organisations who support these community members. The focus of the role is to identify opportunities for community development and to work jointly with community members on addressing these opportunities.

Phone: 8470 8327

Community Development Officer, Economic Participation

The Community Development Officer (Economic participation) will strengthen the community services and business sectors in the municipality, to support the participation and inclusion of people with disability. The aim of this position is to increase the economic participation of people with disability in Darebin. This includes working with local businesses and community services, to

promote accessible and inclusive practices, including creating employment opportunities for people with disability.

Phone: 8470 8140

Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan 2015 - 2019

Our work is guided by the [Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan 2015 – 2019](#) (DAIP). The DAIP supports Council staff to provide equitable and dignified access to all parts of community life for people with a disability. A review of the DAIP is currently being undertaken and plans for our new DAIP are underway. The new DAIP will be developed using a co-design approach with community members with lived experience of disability.

Darebin Disability Advisory Committee (DDAC)

The [Darebin Disability Advisory Committee \(DDAC\)](#) provides advice to Council on issues relating to access and inclusion for people with disabilities and carers living, working, studying or visiting Darebin. DDAC is made up of people with a lived experience of disability, people who care for someone with a disability, local disability service providers, Council staff, and representation from the Darebin Council.

Other services at Darebin City Council

A function of the Access and Inclusion Team is to build organisational capacity regarding access and inclusion for people with disability and how it aligns with all areas of Council.

Council also has a number of other services that support people with a disability by running activities, programs or services that are either: targeted to people with disability; or consider the access and inclusion needs of people with a disability. These include:

- Darebin Libraries
- Creative Culture and Events access program
- Playgroups, toy libraries and Maternal and Child Health Services
- All abilities fitness programs at Reservoir Leisure Centre and Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre
- Home and Community Care Program for Young People (HACC PYP)
- Disability Parking Permit Scheme

What is happening in Darebin?

The best way to stay up to date with what's happening in Darebin is to [subscribe](#) to our monthly e-newsletter, *What's on: Disability Access and Inclusion*.