

Policy 1.02 Inclusive communities

Directorate	Community Environment and Planning
Responsible Officer	Manager Community and Cultural Services

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1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Scope

This policy prescribes the processes implemented by Council to foster an inclusive and accessible community.

1.1.2 Purpose

Provide guidance on the development, implementation, monitoring and review of processes to promote equal opportunity, foster an inclusive community and improve access for all.

1.2 Definitions

Nil.

1.3 Legislation

Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992

Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1997

NSW Local Government Act 1993

NSW Disability Services Act 2006

NSW Disability Inclusion Act 2014

1.4 Implementation

1.4.1 Policy statement

Bega Valley Shire Council is committed to an inclusive community which values all its members and supports their participation in community life regardless of age, ability, gender or sexual orientation. To achieve this Council will:

- consider accessibility and inclusion in all Council services, policies, projects and processes to reduce barriers to participation
- regularly review and implement actions identified in Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan
- promote and support activities which foster social inclusion, social connectedness and belonging
- ensure engagement methodologies are accessible to all, including people living with disability, to enable them to participate in decision-making processes that affect their lives
- maintain an Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee to inform and advise staff and councillors
- improve accessibility in all future public infrastructure works wherever practical
- advocate to other levels of government to address identified needs and improve access and inclusion for all.

1.4.2 Responsibilities

1.4.2.1 Elected Council

Adopt a Disability and Inclusion Action Plan every four years in line with the *Disability Inclusion Act 2014*.

1.4.2.2 Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Leadership Executive Group (LEG)

Designate actions from Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan to relevant staff and ensure responsibilities under the *Disability Inclusion Act 2014* are met, including annual reporting.

1.4.2.3 All staff

Implement relevant actions as per Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan, and ensure accessibility and inclusion are considered in all projects, programs and Council activities.

Under Review

1.5 Supporting documents

1.5.1 BVSC procedures that relate to this policy

Procedure No.:	Procedure Name	External or Internal Procedure
	There are no procedures sitting under Policy 1.02	

1.5.2 BVSC policies that relate to this policy

Policy No.:	Policy Name
1.01	Community Wellbeing
1.02	Cultural Diversity
1.03	Arts and Culture
5.01	Asset Management
6.04	Conditions of Employment

1.5.3 Other related documents

Bega Valley Shire Council Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2021-25

Bega Valley Shire Council Community Engagement Strategy 2019

Bega Valley Shire Council Disability and Inclusion Action Plan

Bega Valley Shire Workforce Strategy

Note: Policy details may change from time to time. To ensure you are viewing the most recent version please view Council's adopted Policies and Procedures on the Council website: www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au