

Inclusive Communities Action Plan 2026–30 Summary

Building a fair, respectful and
inclusive community



A community where everyone belongs

Our Inclusive Communities Action Plan 2026–30 outlines how we will create a fair, welcoming, and accessible Onkaparinga, where people with disability can fully participate. Inclusion is central to our Community Vision 2034. Beyond meeting legal requirements, we are committed to practical, measurable actions that improve everyday life.

Shaped by our community

Developed with people with disability, the Plan aims to make Onkaparinga a place where everyone can thrive, with fewer barriers and more opportunities. Recognising the diverse and intersecting experiences of disability, it prioritises equity, focusing on groups facing additional barriers — including First Nations people, culturally diverse communities, women, children, LGBTQIA+ people, and those in regional or disadvantaged areas.



Four local priorities

Community feedback identified 4 main priorities to help make Onkaparinga more inclusive.

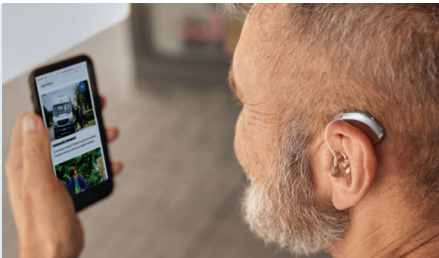
1. Better access to buildings and public spaces

We will design and improve council buildings, parks and public places so they are easy for everyone to use, regardless of ability. This includes using universal design principles and involving people with disability in planning and design decisions.



2. Clear and accessible information

We will improve the way we share information so it is easy to find, understand and use. This includes better signage, clearer communication about our services, and being upfront about what is and isn't accessible.



3. Stronger community understanding and leadership

We will build awareness and understanding of disability and inclusion across the community. We will also create more opportunities for people with disability to take on leadership roles and influence decision-making.



4. Inclusive workplaces and employment

We will increase access to jobs, volunteering and skills development, and support inclusive employment practices within the council and the broader community.



Part of a coordinated effort

This plan aligns with:

Our Community Vision 2034 and key council strategies	The State Disability Inclusion Plan 2025–2029	National disability reforms following the Royal Commission and NDIS Review	The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
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The state plan sets five domains. Our 47 actions contribute across 4 of them:

Domain 1 - Inclusive environments and communities

Accessible public spaces, facilities, programs and participation.



Domain 2 – Education and employment

Equal opportunities to learn, work and build economic security.



Domain 3 – Personal and community support

Access to services that support independence and prevent isolation.



Domain 5 – Safety, rights and justice

Freedom from violence, abuse and discrimination, with dignity protected.



Our commitment

By 2030, we want Onkaparinga to be known as a place where barriers are reduced, diversity is valued and people with disability are visible in leadership, employment and community life. *Because when everyone can participate, our whole community is stronger.*

Why this matters locally

Disability inclusion affects families, workplaces, schools and neighbourhoods across the region.



6.9%

of Onkaparinga residents (12,095) reported needing help with their day to day lives due to disability (ABS 2022).

37.2%

A projected 37.2 per cent increase in residents aged 80 and over between 2025 and 2031 represents the highest growth rate of any age group in the City of Onkaparinga (REMPPLAN 2025).

By 2046

it is projected that lone households will be the most prevalent household type in City of Onkaparinga, resulting in increased vulnerability (REMPPLAN 2025).

3,142

City of Onkaparinga has the highest prevalence of dementia of all SA local government areas with 3,142 recorded and many more undiagnosed (Dementia Australia 2025).

35,000

In 2025, there are an estimated 35,000 South Australians living with dementia, including 2,100 people under the age of 65 living with younger onset dementia (Dementia Australia 2025).

40%

South Australia consistently reports NDIS participant rates for autism that are above the national average, with autism being the largest disability group in the state, averaging around 40 per cent of participants (NDIS Participant Data 2025).

4,000 participants

Onkaparinga has nearly 4,000 participants on the NDIS living with autism and this figure is increasing (NDIS Participant Data 2025).

To read the full Inclusive Communities Action Plan 2026–30, visit onkaparingacity.com/yoursay

