



PENRITH COUNCIL ACCESS COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE & OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES - 2021-22

VISION

A resilient and inclusive community that helps make sure everyone who lives in Penrith Local Government Area feels connected to and included by others, in line with Penrith City Council's vision of a sustainable and prosperous regional city with a harmony of urban and rural qualities.

AIM

To aspire to the provision of the highest possible standard of access and social inclusion in the Penrith Local Government Area for all people with disabilities

OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

1. To advise on Council policies and procedures to ensure that legislative requirements on access are considered in Council decisions and its operations.
2. To promote the Inclusive Design approach as a means to contribute to social inclusion.
3. To provide a link between Council and people in the community with disabilities.
4. To assist Council on strategic planning matters which can contribute to improved access and social inclusion for people with a disability.
5. To support Council in providing leadership for the broader community to achieve social inclusion of people with disability.

SELECTION OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS

- Members are appointed for four years and may be reappointed.
- Nominations will be called via public notices placed in a range of media, including local press, Council media and sector networks.
- Eight community members will be selected and endorsed by Council to serve on the Access Committee. If more than eight nominations are received from

suitably qualified individuals, Council may request that they be placed on an eligibility list to fill any casual vacancy on the Committee.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- An understanding of access issues for people with disabilities.
- An understanding of, or willingness to learn how Council's policies and procedures and relevant legislation aligns with principles of Inclusive Design and supports social inclusion.
- Experience in providing advice or advocating on access issues for people with disabilities.
- Experience of living with disability, caring for or being a friend, family and or ally of someone living with a disability. All Access Committee members will be supported to participate in an orientation session where further information will be provided.

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

- The Committee will be chaired by an elected member of Council. In the event that a Councillor is not present, the City Activation, Community and Place Manager or their nominee shall chair the meeting.
- The Committee will be serviced and administered by the City Activation, Community and Place Department of Council.
- The Committee will report directly to Council at the nearest possible ordinary meeting.
- The Committee will meet at least six (6) times per year.
- The City Activation, Community and Place Department will organise orientation, training and planning sessions for members.
- On request, out of pocket expenses incurred by volunteer Committee members may be reimbursed by Council, and transport provided to and from meetings, and orientation sessions, and other relevant events.
- Requests for support with childcare / respite care for the duration of meetings for parents and / or carers will be considered to ensure that the participation of those who represent the needs of children and / or adults with a disability is encouraged.
- If during their term a Committee member is unable to continue to serve on the Committee, then the casual vacancy will be filled from the eligibility list.
- If a Committee member is absent without an apology for three consecutive



meetings, Council may declare a casual vacancy and that position filled from the eligibility list.

Penrith City Council
PO Box 60, Penrith
NSW 2751 Australia
T 4732 7777
F 4732 7958
penrithcity.nsw.gov.au