



Purple Orange

# Support for implementing Disability Access and Inclusion Plans

**We all have a responsibility to ensure South Australia is accessible and inclusive** - this must not fall solely on people living with disability or those working in the sector. If we all assume this responsibility, we can create a state that embraces difference, values diversity, and creates a sense of belonging and empowerment - **a place where everyone can grow, learn and thrive equally.**

In 2018, the *Disability Inclusion Act 2018 (SA)* (the Inclusion Act) was legislated with the **aim of promoting the inclusion of people living with disability in South Australia.** It sets out a requirement for the South Australian Government to prepare a State Disability Inclusion Plan and for state government agencies to prepare Disability Access and Inclusion Plans (DAIPs). DAIPs are guided by the themes of inclusive communities for all, leadership and collaboration, learning and employment, and accessible communities. To date 105 DAIPs have been published across local councils and state government agencies.

It is important to note the Inclusion Act goes beyond setting out a requirement to produce plans relating to how the South Australian government and its individual departments and agencies interact and include people living with disability. **It also goes to the promotion of the rights of people living with disability and the promotion of their economic and social inclusion in our community.** In that sense, it serves as a strong foundation for meaningful action by the state government and its agencies to improve the inclusion of people living with disability in the work they do, the services they provide, and the decisions they make. However, **we are regularly advised that a lack of resources for implementation is significantly hampering efforts to turn the good intentions contained in DAIPs into meaningful outcomes for people living with disability.**

**DAIP effectiveness will hinge heavily on the extent to which resources are available to government agencies to implement actions** contained in DAIPs.

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JFA Purple Orange is an independent social-profit organisation that undertakes systemic policy analysis and advocacy across a range of issues affecting people living with disability and their families.

(08) 8373 8388 | [admin@purpleorange.org.au](mailto:admin@purpleorange.org.au) | [www.purpleorange.org.au](http://www.purpleorange.org.au) | 104 Greenhill Road UNLEY SA 5061

We call on all political parties and candidates to support the successful implementation of DAIPs by:

- **Establishing a new Grants SA funding stream open to local councils to provide financial assistance for implementing DAIP actions**, such as modifications to buildings or websites, training for staff and support to set-up and run local advisory or co-design groups.
- **Committing to fund Inclusive SA** to ensure it can appropriately provide **external evaluation and oversight** of all DAIPs.
- **Funding for all agencies to deliver on their DAIP actions**, especially to address the significant barriers that people living with disability face in the state's hospitals and other healthcare settings. Please see our briefing on Healthcare for more information about these barriers and recommendations about how to overcome these.

**For further information, please contact Robbi Williams, CEO of JFA Purple Orange, on (08) 8373 8333 or [robbiw@purpleorange.org.au](mailto:robbiw@purpleorange.org.au).**

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