

Disability Action Plan: Discussion Paper

Plain Language Summary

June 2026

What is this about?

Ararat Rural City Council wants to make the community:

- More welcoming
- Easier to use
- Fair for everyone

This includes people with disability.

So, we are making a **Disability Action Plan**.

This plan will say:

- What needs to improve
- What we will do
- When we will do it

Important information

This project is **NOT about the NDIS**.

Council does not control:

- NDIS funding
- NDIS services

If you need help with the NDIS, we have a list of people to call, the list is on page 7

Why accessibility is important

Accessibility means things are easy to use.

This helps everyone, including:

- People with disability
- Older people
- Parents with prams
- People with injuries

When places are accessible:

- People can get around easier
- People can join activities
- People can work and volunteer

This makes the whole community stronger.

What is a Disability Action Plan?

A Disability Action Plan is a simple plan that says:

- What we want to improve
- What actions we will take
- Who will do the work
- When it will happen

It helps Council:

- Plan ahead
- Improve services
- Listen to people with disability

Why we wrote this discussion paper

This paper helps:

- Start conversations
- Share ideas
- Ask for feedback

Your feedback will help shape the final plan.

About our community

In Ararat Rural City:

- Many people have disability
- Many people are older (70+)

This means accessibility is very important now and in the future.

What Council can and can't do

Council CAN control:

- Council buildings (like libraries)
- Parks, public spaces and local roads
- Council services
- Local laws
- Information and communication

Council CANNOT control:

- NDIS services
- Buildings owned by others

We want your ideas

We want to hear from you.

You can share your thoughts on:

Public spaces

- What places are hard to use?
- What needs fixing first?

Jobs and services

- Are Council services easy to use?
- Are there barriers to working at Council?

Events and programs

- Are Council events accessible?

Information

- Is Council information easy to read?

How to share your ideas

You can contact Council in different ways:

- In person (community meetings)
- Online or paper survey
- Email: council@ararat.vic.gov.au
- Phone: (03) 5355 0200
- Mail

Support is available if you need help to take part.

Summary

Council is making a plan to improve accessibility

The plan will:

- Remove barriers
- Improve access
- Include everyone

We need your ideas to get it right

The final plan will be ready by **June 2027**

Thank you

Thank you for sharing your thoughts and helping make Ararat more inclusive.

NDIS & Disability Support

Organisation	What they do / support with	Contact details
Central Highlands Local Area Coordinator (LAC) – Latrobe Community Health Service	Helps people access the NDIS, apply, understand plans, connect with services, and build capacity	1800 242 696 https://www.lchs.com.au/
NDIS (National Disability Insurance Agency)	Access requests, plan approvals, funding, participant enquiries	1800 800 110 www.ndis.gov.au
NDIS Quality & Safeguards Commission	Complaints about providers, report restrictive practices, safeguarding participants	1800 035 544 www.ndiscommission.gov.au
Grampians Disability Advocacy (GDA)	Advocacy support for people with disability (rights, complaints, service issues), NDIS Appeals	(03) 5329 1300 www.grampiansadvocacy.org.au
Australian Federation of Disability Organisations	To represent the united voice of our members and people with disability in national initiatives and policy debate.	1800 219 969 office@afdo.org.au