



Camden Access Community Advisory Group (ACAG)

Terms of Reference

Aim

The Camden Access Community Advisory Group defines access as:

“the capacity to partake daily life roles and tasks be it physical, social, emotional, vocational roles to all individuals through the removal of barriers within the community. The primary focus is to facilitate, educate, and advocate for inclusive environments”.

The Camden Access Community Advisory Group (ACAG) has been established by Council to work with Council and other agencies to address access issues in the Camden Local Government Area (LGA) through a consultative, collaborative and action-oriented approach.

The ACAG will also work in an advisory role to Council, providing specialised information and knowledge pertaining to access issues for people with a disability in the local Camden community.

Role of ACAG

- To educate/ build capacity, provide support and direction to Council staff in regard to disability access issues in the local community;
- To work with Council staff in a mentoring role to build the capacity of Council officers to recognise and address access issues that arise within their work;
- To support and facilitate communication between Council and the local community on disability access issues;

- To advocate for the community on access issues raised by the community;
- To work proactively in developing strategies with Council and with other organisations to address access issues in the local community;
- To assist in raising awareness of disability access issues within the wider Camden community;
- To encourage broad ownership of the Disability Action Plan through promotion of the Plan in the local community.
- To be actively involved in the evaluation and review of the current Disability Action Plan; and
- To be actively involved in the development of future Disability Action Plans to address identified access issues in the community.

Role of Council

To support and resource the ACAG through:

- Provision of relevant training to ACAG members to enable them to fulfil their roles effectively;
- Organising of meeting venue, agenda and minutes, and ensuring that the venues and materials are provided in accessible formats for all members;
- Promoting the ACAG within Council and the wider community.

Membership, Representation and Selection

Membership to be drawn through invitation and advertising from a range of sources, including:

- Community Representatives – people with a disability and/or carers of people with a disability who are residents of the Camden LGA.
- Disability Service Providers – representatives from a diverse range of disability organisations either based in or providing services to the Camden LGA. To ensure diversity of representation, not one group or organisation should be overly represented.
- Council Representatives – Councillor/ s and Council staff member/s

Where possible, representation will also aim to cover the geographical spread of the Camden LGA, and also attempt to provide representation of a range of cultural and age groups in membership.

Selection to the ACAG will be based on membership categories, experience and knowledge of access issues in the local community, and diverse representation.

Meetings

Meetings will be held monthly at an accessible venue within the Camden LGA.