

Disability Action Group Annual Report 2018

The Disability Action Group (DAG) works with the Far North District Council (FNDC) to advocate for a more accessible environment for Far North residents and visitors with disabilities.

This report covers the period 1 November 2017-31 October 2018 and outlines key areas of advocacy and action for the DAG during this time.

DAG structure and strategy

The DAG has developed and adopted a new Terms of Reference document to guide their activity.

The DAG has developed strategic goals through an annual strategic workshop and presented these to Council.

DAG promotion

The DAG has developed content for a new page on the FNDC website, made a media release, and recruited new members with a lived experience of disability.

DAG engagement with the Office for Disability Issues (ODI)

The DAG has sent representatives to a regional meeting where feedback was provided to representatives from the ODI on behalf of Northland's disability community.

Accessible parking

The DAG has engaged with the FNDC Transport Planner to provide feedback on the process to create new accessible car parking spaces, to recommend new spaces, and to recommend improvements for existing spaces.

Accessible transport

The DAG has engaged with a range of agencies to advocate for improvements in accessible transport. These have included Barrier Air, Air NZ, Northland Regional Council, FNDC, and local Members of Parliament, Matt King and Kelvin Davis.

Accessible footpaths

The DAG has advocated for improvements to footpaths and road crossings in the Far North by presenting specific concerns to staff and by supporting a community-led petition.

Disability Awareness Training

The DAG has successfully advocated to FNDC to provide disability awareness training for staff in line with the Equity and Access for People with Disabilities policy.

Accessible Public Spaces and Community Facilities

The DAG has given feedback on Reserve Management Plans for Lindvart Park and Kerikeri Domain, and has advocated for improvements in community facilities and the future development of an app or map to support accessible tourism.