



**MY  
DISABILITY  
MATTERS**

**2024 STATE ELECTION PLATFORM  
SUMMARY**

# At this election, disability matters **more than ever.**

There are approximately 4.4 million Australians with disability.<sup>1</sup> In Queensland, 19.1% of the Queensland population, or over 1 in 5 Queenslanders have a disability.<sup>2</sup>

Queensland is leading work on foundations for disability reforms and actions to implement recommendations from the NDIS Review and Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability (Disability Royal Commission). We also have [Queensland's Disability Plan 2022-27](#), which gives us the blueprint for our work based on [Australia's Disability Strategy 2020-2030](#). Now is the time to build on this momentum and continue working together with Queenslanders with disability.

The Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games provide a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Queensland to lead the way worldwide, leaving a legacy of inclusion and accessibility and creating a future where all Queenslanders can thrive.

Queenslanders with Disability Network (QDN) members call on candidates across all parties to commit to creating an inclusive and accessible Queensland.

QDN is asking candidates to engage with people with disability from the beginning in the planning, design, delivery and evaluation across state government portfolios. We know that this delivers more inclusive, accessible, efficient and effective policies, services and systems for government, business, industry and people with disability. This includes enabling Queenslanders with disability to be involved in, and contribute to Queensland's economic, social, civic and cultural success.

It is critical that policies, strategies and initiatives deliver targeted supports and outcomes for people with disability; including First Nations, LGBTIQ+, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people, people living in regional, rural and remote communities and women with disability.

<sup>1</sup> [People with disability in Australia - Australian Institute of Health and Welfare \(aihw.gov.au\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Queensland Government - Disability statistics](#)

## Who we are

QDN is an organisation of, by, and for people with disability. We believe people with disability should always be at the table when decisions are made that directly impact their lives. We operate a state-wide network of over 3000 members and supporters who provide information, feedback and views based on their lived experience, which inform the organisation's systemic advocacy activities.

QDN hosts 32 peer support groups across Queensland, made up of people with diverse disabilities, and convened by people with disability. The groups meet to connect and share information, life experiences and solutions to create more inclusive lives and communities.

As the Executive Peak for the Queensland Disability Peak Body and Representation Body Program, we support the State Election Platforms of our fellow Peak and Representative bodies, who are valued allies.

Download the full election platform for more information ([link to full version](#)).

# We call on candidates to commit to:



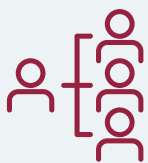
## My voice matters

1. Implement the disability reforms – specifically the Disability Royal Commission recommendations and NDIS Review through co-design and engagement with people with disability, their families/carers.
2. Invest in leadership development of Queenslanders with disability and pathways to roles and representation across the public service, business, industry, governance and boards.
3. Deliver robust, clear mechanisms for reporting on outcomes of disability reforms from the voice and perspective of people with disability.
4. Provide sufficient funding for individual and systemic advocacy in Queensland to support disability reforms.



## My NDIS matters

1. Co-design, build and invest to deliver a Queensland Foundational Supports Service System and disability ecosystem building upon work and engagement undertaken by sector to date.
2. Accept and implement NDIS Review recommendations and actions.
3. Ensure Queensland's share of ILC funding meets the needs of this state.



## My personal and community support matters

1. Invest in person-centred, timely, specialist disability supports for Queenslanders with disability who are not eligible for the NDIS.
2. Provide accessible voting options for Queenslanders with disability.



## My employment and financial security matters

1. Establish a dedicated Queensland Disability Innovation Fund (QDIF) to enable:
  - An Incubator and accelerator program targeted to enhance the capability and entrepreneurial, business skills of people with disability.
  - Inclusion Ready program for Queensland business to increase disability inclusion
  - Initiatives including low interest loans and investment funds for Queensland based businesses and companies.
2. Develop a strategy for inclusivity in supply chains through co-design, targets, and building business capability through the inclusive employment of people with disability.
3. Implement the recommendations in [Game Changers: Developing an inclusive employment legacy from the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games](#) developed by Urbis and QDN released in May 2024.
4. Implement the recommendations in [Breaking The Glass Ceiling And Smashing The Legacy Of Low Expectations](#), a QDN position paper on the economic security of women with disability in Queensland.
5. Deliver targeted financial subsidies to people with disability on income support and low incomes to address additional costs related to disability and cost of living including power, water, transport and other essential services.



## My education and learning matters

1. Implement and report on targeted measures to reduce school suspensions and exclusions for students with disability.
2. Fund innovative transition programs for young people with disability from school to employment or further education.
3. Re-establish the Ministerial Taskforce on Inclusive Education.



## My housing matters

1. Fund and build more safe, affordable and accessible social, community and private housing in line with the National Construction Code standards.
2. Deliver innovative housing models for people with disability, including supportive housing.
3. Increase rental assistance and investment in rental support activities.
4. Deliver on initiatives in [Partnering for inclusive housing with Queenslanders with disability 2024-2027](#) (Partnering for inclusive housing).
5. Adopt and action recommendations in the Community Support and Services Committee [report on the Inquiry into the provision and regulation of supported accommodation](#)
6. Improve enforcement of tenancy rights, including providing support for people with disability to lodge complaints.
7. Adopt the [Make Renting Fair in Queensland](#) campaign reforms on rent increases, ending tenancies and energy efficiency minimum standards.
8. Improve home ownership rates for people with disability through innovative financing options and improved shared equity approaches.



## My safety, rights and justice matters

1. Design and implement a dedicated Domestic and Family Violence Targeted Action Plan for disability under Queensland's [Domestic and family violence prevention strategy 2016-2026](#).
2. Provide tailored support and targeted programs to parents with disability who have children in the child safety system.
3. Invest in initiatives for people with disability to be prepared for emergency and disaster events before, during and after.
4. Amend Section 216 of the Criminal Code to ensure the rights of people with intellectual disability to have sexual relationships.
5. Raise the age of criminal responsibility to 14 and stop detaining young people in watchhouses.



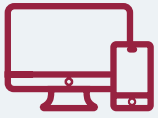
## My health and wellbeing matters

1. Review and audit current patient data systems to establish recording mechanisms for key disability identifier information.
2. Invest and increase investment in community based mental health services that meet the needs of people with disability.
3. Increase targeted health care for people with intellectual disability through expanding the remit of, and investment in, the Queensland Centre for Excellence in Intellectual and Developmental Disability Mental Health to focus on physical health and wellbeing.
4. Establish an Integrated Response Pathway across government and community services to improve access by supported accommodation residents to a range of integrated and coordinated allied, mental health and health supports; including case management.
5. Invest in workforce development for health professionals to increase this groups' skills and knowledge to work more confidentially and effectively with patients with diverse disabilities.



## My community attitudes matter

1. Increase disability representation, especially in leadership roles, to increase the public awareness of Queenslanders with disability who make diverse contributions to Queensland communities.



## My digital inclusion matters

1. Fund programs that deliver devices, data and build the digital skills of people with disability.
  2. Ensure that government, business and service providers adhere to best practice in digital access, user friendly platforms and the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines.
  3. Prioritise co-design and user testing by people with disability for any public-facing artificial intelligence systems used by the Queensland Government and public services.
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## My transport matters

1. Update the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport (2002) including user testing by people with disability to provide feedback on implementation of measures.
2. Commit ongoing funding for the Queensland Taxi Subsidy Scheme (TSS) beyond 2025.
3. Introduce mandatory public reporting for taxi companies to report on average wait times, available wheelchair accessible taxis, and number of complaints.
4. Develop a regional and rural accessible transport strategy.
5. Legislate protections to make pedestrians safe through the regulation of speed and geo-locking for e-scooters, e-bikes and other mobility devices.





## **Inclusive and accessible 2032 Olympics and Paralympics matters**

1. Commit to engagement and co-design with people with disability in the planning and delivery phases; to deliver a world-leading accessible and inclusive Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.
  2. Commit to legacy accessibility and inclusion measures beyond the 2032 Games that include uplift for housing, employment, health and wellbeing, transport, public infrastructure, tourism and sport.
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**For more information call us on  
1300 363 783 or visit [www.qdn.org.au](http://www.qdn.org.au)**