

Waverley Business Awards 2022 Disability Inclusion Award Guidelines

Waverley Council is committed to making Waverley a place where everyone can participate positively in community life. One in five Australians report a disability. People with a disability are more likely to spend their money with a business that is welcoming and easy to access. Making your business more accessible and inclusive is a good way to grow your business and attract loyal customers and return business.

The award is open to businesses and organisations located in Waverley at the time of closure for nominations. A nominee must not primarily be a disability service.

Judging will be completed by a panel of judges, consisting of representatives from Waverley Council and community representatives, including persons with lived experience of disability. Judges will award businesses that can show how their business is welcoming, inclusive and accessible to all members of the community

Selection Criteria

1. The business is disability aware. The business welcomes and treats people with respect and dignity and is adaptable to individual needs. Examples:
 - **People can easily access staff to ask questions or get assistance**
 - **Options for alternative communication and payment e.g., online bookings**
 - **Staff receive disability awareness training or information**
 - **Guide dogs and service dogs are welcomed**
2. The design and layout of the business premises maximises independent access for people with disability. Examples:
 - **Step free entry and uncluttered circulation spaces**
 - **Clear directions and signage**
 - **Accessible toilets and safe, quiet areas**
 - **Lower counter heights and seating to help people to communicate easily with staff and pay for the service**
3. Initiatives to increase the participation and visibility of people with disability in community life. Examples:
 - **Skills development and employment opportunities**
 - **Sponsors social, arts, sports or recreational opportunities for people with disability**