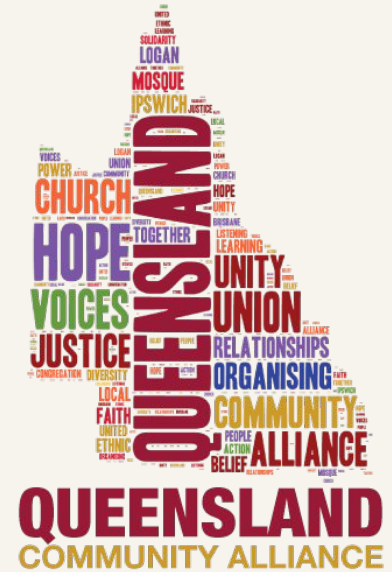


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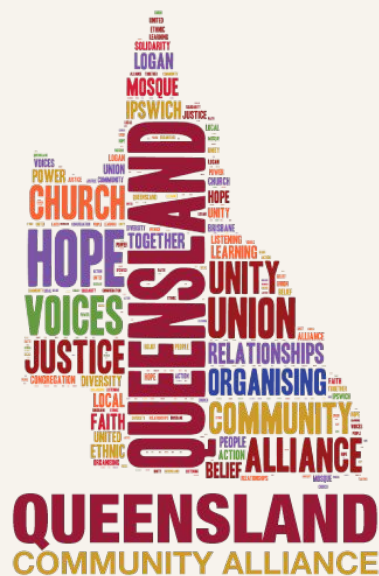
Queensland Community Alliance

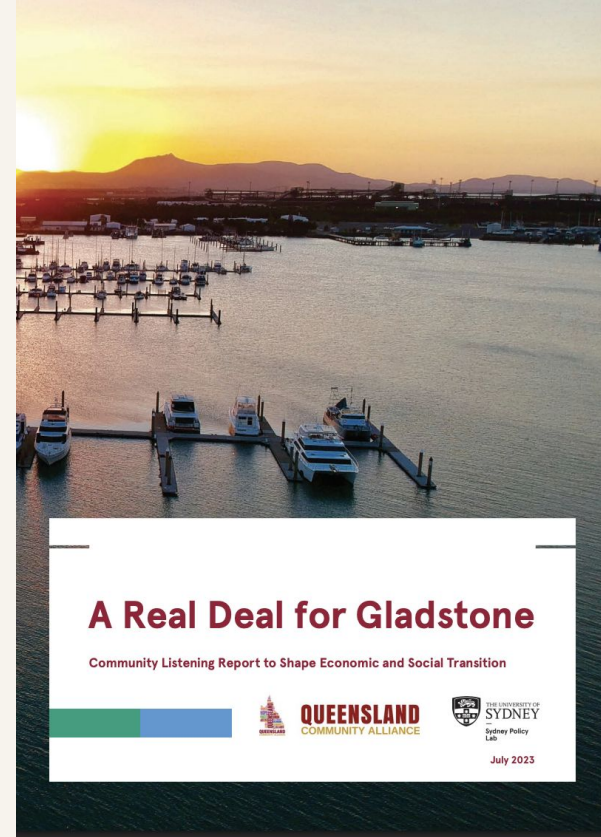


Who is Queensland Community Alliance?

Queensland Community Alliance brings together 32 member organisations representing 1.7 million Queenslanders. We organise our members and communities to act for the common good and are non-partisan. We are churches, mosques, other faith groups, trade unions, community organisations, and ethnic associations.

Our local organising team includes Gladstone Disability Community Network, Queensland Conservation Council, Gladstone Conservation Council, Rail Tram and Bus Union, Parent to Parent, Australian Conservation Foundation, Communities for Children- GAPDL, Gladstone Uniting Church and Gladstone Women's Health.





A Real Deal for Gladstone

Community Listening Report to Shape Economic and Social Transition



QUEENSLAND
COMMUNITY ALLIANCE



Sydney Policy
Lab
July 2023

What is an Accessible Changing Place Facility?

Changing Places are facilities for people with high support needs who are not adequately supported by standard accessible toilets. Changing Places are larger than standard accessible toilets and have extra features to meet the needs of people with disability and their carers.

Portable Changing Places are portable facilities such as Placeable Pods, Marveloos, or other portable toilet facilities that meets the Changing Places Design Specifications 2020. Portable Changing Places offer state, territory and local governments a versatile solution to ensuring people with disability and their carers have access to a Changing Places facility where it may not be possible or suitable to build a permanent facility. This may include education settings, temporary infrastructure, and at community events.

Australian Federal Gvt Website

The need identified from the community

- Despite the goodwill of many event organisers and community leaders, there is a lack of dignity and agency for many people at events across our region because there aren't accessible changing place facilities.
- People unable to access community events without proper bathroom facilities leading to social isolation and disconnection
- *"Personal experience of not attending events due to concerns regarding accessing the appropriate facility. I have felt excluded from community connections. I have become insular and isolated. This also affects my general mental health and outlook on life."*

Accessible Change Table Community Meeting



Accessible Changing Place Facility Survey

- 16 community groups and organisations filled out the survey
- 1770 Festival, Agnes Water Blues, Roots and Rock Festival, The Salvation Army, Gladstone Regional Council - Neighbourhood Centre, Tannum crab classic, The Boyne Tannum HookUp, Australia's Biggest Family Fishing Competition
- 13/16 said they would use the facilities and support our campaign, with the other three saying they need more information
- Challenge is budget, only 6 of those could pay over \$250

"I don't know if it is relevant but I was approached by an older patron at one of our events who had had a toileting accident and we had no facilities for them to clean themselves up. Without a space with a sink and a close able door (there were of course toilets and sinks for hand washing but not in the same room), it was really difficult to give this person the dignity they deserved. I know too that without access to adequate toilet facilities, people with high support needs are effectively excluded from events which is so unfair."

"All event organisers attempt to ensure that people with disabilities can attend and have comfort knowing that their basic sanitary needs are supported while attending. This level of infrastructure is not commonly available outside of established venues. Therefore a service like this is not just warranted but responsible and adds to inclusion."

"GCCl Would love to get behind and support this valuable asset for our community, although we as a chamber do not require these services, we believe it is of great value for our region."

Conversations with other councils

Met with Jack Mulholland, Community Access and Inclusion Facilitator from Maroondah City Council and Lizz Ainsworth from Geelong Council

Key points:

- Both agreed this is a council responsibility and have spoken of the joy and meaning in providing portable accessible changing facilities
- High community demand within the Council regions and outside
- Works best when it connects with maintenance teams, not community development team
- Costs of transport (\$2000 round trip) and cleaning (\$800) can be high, which makes it inaccessible for some groups



What we want to see

1. Consideration of Accessibility for all Council assets as part of council processes
2. Upgrading council toilet blocks in key locations to be accessible changing facilities- places such as Millennium Esplanade, Tondoon Botanic Gardens, Agnes Water Beach, advocating to the Port Authority about East Shores/ Gladstone Marina/ Spinnaker Park
3. Support a Portable Accessible Changing Place Facility for the region at an affordable cost.