



Government of South Australia

Annual Reporting 2023-24

# **Disability Access and Inclusion Plan**

South Australia Police (SAPOL) launched its Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) 2020-2024 in October 2020 and continues to implement its actions during this final year.

The DAIP provides a road map of how SAPOL intends to further support and include people with disability over the four years of the plan. The 12 actions remain aligned to Inclusive SA, the State Disability Inclusion Plan 2019-2023 (the State Plan), and the Outcome Areas identified in the Interim Review 2022 of the State Plan.

## Outcome Area 3 Safety, Rights and Justice

During 2023-24 some examples of SAPOL's actions include:

- SAPOLs Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) program is maintaining a focus on engagement with priority groups including those with a disability through its action plan and specific strategies will be included in the 2024-25 NHW communications plan.
- SAPOLs Public Engagement Unit assisted in coordinating the Variety SA Christmas Party at Wayville Showgrounds in November 2023. The event attracted over 2 000 children living with a range of disabilities, as well as children from disadvantaged backgrounds. Police officers from Public Engagement Unit, Districts, Dog Operations and Police Cadets attended and positively engaged with the children in a fun and relaxed environment.
- District and Local Service Area members presented the 'Think you Know' education program presentations to High School Disability Unit students at schools from across the state. The program helps raise the student's awareness around keeping safe online and preventing online child sexual exploitation.
- Northern District members presented the 'Role of Police' presentation to a community group hosted by the Windamere Park, Adult Disability Support Service.
- SCAM awareness talks have been presented to National Disability Insurance Scheme clients.
- SAPOL extended the Co-Response program trial that commenced with Northern Adelaide Local Health Network to include Central Adelaide Local Health Network. The program aims to provide better outcomes for community members experiencing mental health crisis.
- SAPOLs Road Safety Section provides education on pedestrian, cycle and road safety. Sessions can be adapted to cater for students living with disability. The Section has developed social narratives to assist teachers and parents explain the Road Safety Centre to a student with autism. It also has sensory items available for those who may need them during a road safety session. Regionally, Eyre and Western LSA members attended the Whyalla Road Safety Centre and engaged with a community group visit from local children living with disabilities.



- Mandatory mental health refresher training was delivered to all police officers up to the rank of Inspector.
- Diversity and Inclusion training and disability training continues to form part of the on-line induction for Public Sector Act employees and is part of the face-to-face training on the constable development program.
- The South Australian Autism Inclusion Charter was officially launched on 2 April 2024 World Autism Day. Acting Commissioner John De Candia joined other South Australian Government representatives to sign the Charter, in confirmation of SAPOLs commitment to the Autism Inclusion Charter. Agency representatives participated in Autism Awareness and Understanding training. This will be rolled out to all staff over the coming months to supplement the existing autism training module for police that was delivered to all sworn members up to the rank of Superintendent.

## Outcome Areas 1 Employment and Financial Security and 6 Health and Wellbeing

During 2023-24:

- SAPOL continues to offer employees InBody as a screening tool to help develop a better understanding of potential risk factors to health. The tool provides an in-depth body composition report with an optional debrief.
- In conjunction with SAPOLs Reconditioning Program, SAPOL has established partnerships with health service providers. The Program provides some financial support and links employees to suitable allied health professionals for diagnosis and treatment of non-work-related injuries, achieving healthy weight or improved physical condition. The SAPOLs extensive Preferred Health Service Provider's lists supports the Reconditioning Program and has over 300 allied health professionals including physiotherapists, exercise physiologists, podiatrists, dieticians, nutritionists, sleep clinicians, sleep physicians and cardiologists.

### Outcome Areas 6 Health and Wellbeing and 7 Community Attitudes

### During 2023-2024:

- In June SAPOL employees participated in the 2024 Push-Up Challenge. Thirty two teams entered the challenge making a commitment to 3249 push-ups across 23 days representing the number of Australians who died by suicide in 2022. The challenge helped put a spotlight on mental health and raised over \$19 000 in support of the Push for Better Foundation.
- SAPOL members continue to actively support the Law Enforcement Torch Run by developing and maintaining fundraising activities which provide support to Special Olympics programs and visibly demonstrate inclusivity in sport.

