



**South East Health  
Disability Action Plan**

**2000-2003**

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*Prepared by the Disability Action Plan Group of SEH December 1999*

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*Appendix 4: Terms of Reference for Area Disability Access Committee*

# 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *NSW Government Disability Policy Framework 1993* translates into action the government's commitment to improving opportunities for people with disabilities to share fully in community life. Within the spirit of the Disability Policy Framework, our responsibilities are to be proactive in ensuring we eliminate or reduce barriers to people with a disability.

Various laws including the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the NSW Disability Services Act 1992 underpin the framework. Health services, as government agencies, are required to comply with the framework and to submit Disability Action Plans every third year to the Ageing and Disability Department (ADD).

The South East Health Disability Action Plan is the first formal disability plan for the Area as a whole. Individual facilities and services have undertaken initiatives to improve opportunities and access for people with disabilities. Until now, there has been a lack of a coordinated and unified approach as to how the Area as a whole should address the issue.

This plan is consistent with the guidelines proposed by ADD for the development of disability plans and highlights the complex nature of services provided throughout the Area. The priority areas covered in the plan relate to physical access, promoting positive community attitudes, training of staff, information about services, employment in the public sector and complaints procedures.

The Area's commitment to improving services for people with disabilities does not finish with the completion of this action plan. The processes of implementation, monitoring and evaluation are equally important. The Area recognises it is only through a comprehensive approach that it can ensure that people with disabilities are afforded the same participation in the health system as other health consumers. South East Health is committed to ensuring optimum quality of life, independence and participation of individuals with disabilities and their carers.