

# Blue Skies



Fruits of 3 December Conversations  
(an early picture of what's to come)

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# Logistics



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# December 3 Conversations



**Total: 135 Conversations Statewide**  
**22 Regional Conversations**  
**113 Brisbane**

Brisbane, Biloela, Cairns, Gladstone, Gold  
Coast, Goondiwindi, Gympie, Mackay,  
Magnetic Island, Mt Isa,  
Rockhampton, Roma, Sunshine Coast,  
Townsville

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# Conversation questions



- What would it take to create an inclusive community?
- What action am I willing to take to make it happen?
- How can everyone achieve a home of their own in the community?
- How do we build support for a National Disability Insurance scheme?
- How can we help others learn from our experiences as parents of children with disabilities attending main stream education?
- How do we create a welcoming school community?

# Conversation questions (cont')



- How can we turn our local Police Citizen's Youth Club into a creative and vibrantly productive place for young people with a disability?
- What would it take to create a society where community is available to all young people?
- How can we encourage local business to be more welcoming to people with disability?
- What does local government do now towards building a more inclusive community and what would it take to do more?
- How do we tackle the problem of homelessness and disability?
- What would it take to reduce the number of people with disability in the criminal justice system?

# Conversation questions (cont')



- How can we support families to achieve their potential, where one or both parents have a disability?
- What must be done so that all jobseekers with a disability are meaningfully employed?
- How can we create a bright future for people with a disability exiting the foster system?
- How do we create more, disability friendly spaces and places in our local community?
- What would it take to create a pathway into sport of people with disability?
- How do we support community capacity building?

# At a glance



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# Key themes



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## Key themes (1)



- Education
  - Welcoming school community
  - Significant policy & practice reform
  - Leadership
  - Awareness/profile raising re: contributions of people with disability
- Welcoming community
  - Sense of connection, belonging, sense of place



## Key themes (2)



- Access & Universal design
  - Spaces & places
  - Local govt leadership
  - Universal design compulsory & rewarded
- Employment
  - Opportunities to contribute
  - Self-determination

## Key themes (3)

- Portability
  - Geographic
  - Systems & fragmentation of a life
  - Navigation
  - Self-determination
- Importance of story





# Actions



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## Actions (1)



- Recognition of local bus driver
- Developing a program for celebrating people with disability on community radio
- Reading the ferry timetables aloud over the loud speaker (Magnetic Island)
- "Educate the Educators" awareness raising for teachers
- "kids teaching kids"
- Peer mentoring (Townsville #34)

## Actions (2)



- Documenting career paths (Rockhampton #111)
- Dedicating a day per term to focus on disability awareness (Brisbane #113)
- Renegotiate policy re: limit of hours of service under mental health plan
- Explore more flexibility in hours & tasks in jobs to open up to people with disability (#120)
- Want to set up a Youth Conference (Townsville #135)
- Family campaign to ensure police have data they need to keep people out of watch house

## Actions (3)



- Educate local govt & business re: universal design (Gladstone #127)
- Legislate Universal Design (Cairns#108)
- Train people with disabilities as speakers to promote access (Brisbane \$113)
- Start a regular mothers morning tea for support (Brisbane #81)



# Opportunities



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# Opportunities for Govt policy & investment (1)



- Service Responsiveness and sustainability
- Capacity building in people with disability, family and services
- Capacity building in community (opening doors)
- Community navigators (supporting people to go through the doors)
- Disability friendly procurement policy
- Support for a national disability insurance scheme
- Supporting collaborative efforts



## Opportunities for Govt policy & investment (2)

- Information sharing to keep people out of the criminal justice system
- Disability Services leadership across childrens services
- Campaign to raise profile of the contribution of people with disability to local economy
- Campaign to raise profile of the contribution of disability services to the social and economic infrastructure of regional communities



# Where to from here?



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## Where to from here?



- Report on emerging themes & recommendations
- Rights/entitlement base to be balanced with aspirational, strengths-based approaches
- Focused conversations around major themes
- Rework of the principles & elements (policy document)
- Engagement of a broader core blue skies group (Workshop early 2010)