



# Changing Places Funding for Inclusive Beaches Guide

The Australian Government's Accessible Australia Initiative is now offering full funding for Changing Places facilities in inclusive beaches



# What are Inclusive Beaches?

Inclusive beaches are coastal or riverside spaces with infrastructure that allows people with disabilities and their carers to access and enjoy the beach.

These spaces can include:

- **Beach wheelchairs** – for easy travel across sand and uneven ground
- **Floating wheelchairs** – for safe access into shallow water
- **Mobi-matting** – a stable surface for mobility aids to move across sand

**Inclusive beach funding now covers both ocean and river locations.**







## What's covered by funding?

Under the Accessible Australia Initiative, the Australian Government is offering 100% funding for Changing Places facilities located at inclusive beaches.

### Funding can cover:

- The full design and construction of Changing Places toilet buildings
- Site work and approved infrastructure necessary for installation
- Projects located at eligible beach or riverside locations

Funding proposals must include an itemised quote and a compliant project plan. Applications are assessed through Federation Funding Agreements via your state or territory government.



Additional beach accessibility features such as mobi-matting or beach wheelchairs may be considered if included as part of a compliant Changing Places project plan. Final eligibility is subject to approval.





## How to check eligibility?

Most public beaches are eligible, including those along rivers.

Final approval is based on:

- Local community need
- Visitor numbers and public use
- Proximity to other accessible amenities

Contact your state or territory department to discuss suitable locations and required documentation.

## Which LGA areas have accessible beaches?

Some councils already have accessible beach infrastructure in place.

To find out if your council is listed, visit the Accessible Beaches Directory. If your beach is not listed, funding may still be available. River beaches are now included under the new guidelines which is not included here or on their website.

See the list of councils that have accessible beaches below:

### NSW

- Eurobodalla Shire Council
- City of Coffs Harbour
- Randwick Council
- Sutherland Shire Council
- Central Coast Council
- Port Stephens Council
- City of Newcastle
- Waverley Council

### WA

- City of Albany
- City of Joondalup
- City of Cockburn
- City of Bunbury
- City of Rockingham
- City of Mandurah
- City of Greater Geraldton

### VIC

- Mornington Peninsula Shire
- Surf Coast Shire
- City of Kingston
- Bayside City Council
- Hobsons Bay City Council
- City of Port Phillip

### TAS

- City of Hobart
- Clarence City Council
- Glamorgan Spring Bay Council

### SA

- Port Adelaide Enfield
- Whyalla City Council
- City of Charles Strut
- District Council of Yankalilla
- City of Holdfast Bay

### QLD

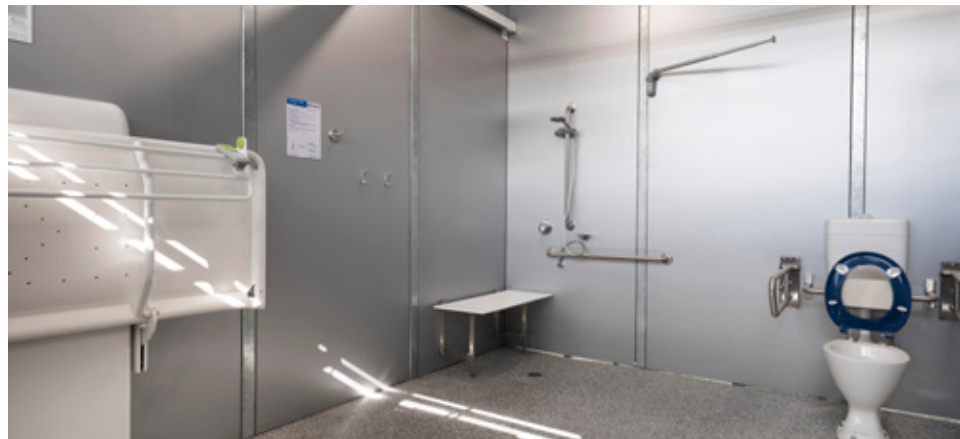
- City of Gold Coast
- Sunshine Coast Council
- Cairns Regional Council
- Fraser Coast Regional Council
- Noosa Shire Council
- Douglas Shire Council
- City of Moreton Bay

**\*Accessible river beaches are not included in the above list**

# How Modus Can Help

Planning an inclusive beach can feel overwhelming. From funding to compliance, there are lots of moving parts.

At Modus, we help you plan, fund, and deliver your project with less red tape and more confidence.



## 1. Funding Support

We know the funding system inside out. **Our team will help you:**

- Understand grant requirements
- Prepare itemised quotes for funding applications
- Meet all documentation and deadline requirements
- Coordinate with your state or territory contacts

**Need a quote for your submission? Visit [modusaustralia.com.au](https://modusaustralia.com.au)**

## 2. Compliance & Planning

We make sure your project ticks all the boxes—on paper and on-site.

**Our solutions are:**

- Fully compliant with AS1428 and Accessible Australia Initiative guidelines
- Designed with community use, safety, and durability in mind
- Backed by expert support from concept to completion

We work closely with your team and Changing Places assessors to ensure your project meets every requirement, at every stage.

## 3. Hassle-Free Install & Design

Our Changing Places facilities are pre-designed, certified, and ready to install.

**What you'll get:**

- Proven designs with fast approval times
- Prefabricated components for quick on-site setup
- Minimal disruption to the community
- Complete project coordination from our experienced team

## Why Councils Choose Modus

- Over 25 years of experience in public infrastructure
- Proudly Australian-made and manufactured
- Trusted by councils nationwide for accessible amenities
- Full support across funding, design, delivery, and compliance





# Changing Places Funding and Planning Checklist

## Secure Funding & Budget

- ☐ Confirm eligibility for Changing Places funding and Accessible Australia Initiative funding.
- ☐ Contact your state or territory government to apply for funding (local councils cannot apply directly).
- ☐ Obtain an itemised quote from a reputable supplier (e.g., Modus Australia).
- ☐ Prepare project plan, with: location, estimated cost, subcontractor details, timeline, assessor details
- ☐ Submit your funding proposal to the state or territory government for approval.
- ☐ Ensure you have at least \$10 million in Public Liability Insurance (or find a sponsoring organisation)

## Site Planning & Approvals

- ☐ Confirm location approval from DSS before construction begins.
- ☐ Assess availability of water, power, and sewage connections.
- ☐ Obtain pricing for utility connections if needed.
- ☐ Check site access and potential concurrent works.
- ☐ Obtain a soil and geotech report if required.
- ☐ Submit a development application (DA) to local authorities.

## Engage a Changing Places Assessor

- ☐ Select a CP Assessor and begin early engagement: [changingplaces.org.au/engage-an-assessor](https://changingplaces.org.au/engage-an-assessor)
- ☐ Work with the assessor at three key stages to ensure compliance:
  - ☐ Stage 1: Schematic Design Review.
  - ☐ Stage 2: Construction Documentation Review.
  - ☐ Stage 3: As-Built Final Review.
- ☐ Obtain a Statement of Compliance from the assessor upon approval.

## Design & Procurement

- ☐ Choose a compliant design that meets the Changing Places Design Specifications 2020.
- ☐ Select a trusted supplier like Modus Australia for a compliant, pre-approved design.
- ☐ Finalise procurement timelines, including: date for key production milestones, expected completion
- ☐ Ensure purchase orders are processed by finance/accounts.

## Construction & Accreditation

- ☐ Begin construction according to the approved timeline.
- ☐ Oversee milestone completion during manufacturing.
- ☐ Complete site requirements before installation.
- ☐ Schedule the final Changing Places Assessor review before facility opening.
- ☐ Obtain final accreditation and a Statement of Compliance.

## Reporting & Compliance

- ☐ Submit two six-monthly Progress Reports (Accessible Australia Initiative)
- ☐ Submit six-monthly reports under the Initiative (for state/territory funding), including:
  - ☐ Key milestones
  - ☐ Build progress
  - ☐ Costings
  - ☐ Any challenges/delays
- ☐ Notify DSS of any changes to the project timeline or budget.
- ☐ Ensure the facility is listed on the National Public Toilet Map.
- ☐ Retain all financial records for seven years.

## Reporting & Compliance

- ☐ Perform an on-site handover inspection with the supplier.
- ☐ Submit a Final Report under the Federal Funding Agreement.
- ☐ Organise an official opening event with stakeholders and the community.





## RELATED PROJECT

# Seaforth Esplanade, QLD

### Location

Mackay, QLD

### Client

Mackay Regional Council

### Contractor

Vassallo Constructions

### Completed

March 2024

### Product

Custom Yarra 6,  
Changing Places 2

This project at Seaforth Esplanade exemplifies Mackay Regional Council's commitment to inclusive public spaces, with the delivery of a Changing Places 2 facility that enables beach access for people with high support needs. Installed as part of a wider open space upgrade, the Changing Places facility includes an adult-sized change table, ceiling hoist, privacy screen, and a shower—providing dignified, accessible options for locals and visitors alike.

Balancing accessibility and environment, the building was designed to withstand coastal conditions while maintaining aesthetic appeal. The external walls feature our proprietary LoCal aluminium cladding,

and steel structures were treated with epoxy coatings for added durability. A tropical touch was brought in through the custom yellow floral veranda panels, which tie in beautifully with the setting.

By incorporating Changing Places design into the beachside environment, the facility supports inclusive recreation and longer stays, giving every visitor the freedom to enjoy Mackay's coastline—whether for a morning stroll, family gathering, or a day by the sea.





# Need help getting started?

We've helped councils across Australia plan, fund, and deliver accessible infrastructure that works. Let's talk about how we can support your inclusive beach project.

## Sydney

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8 Parramatta Square, Level 49 10  
Darcy Street Parramatta NSW 2150

## Melbourne

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Building 1/301 Burwood Hwy  
Burwood VIC 3125

## Brisbane

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Level 1/470 St Pauls Terrace  
Fortitude Valley QLD 4006

## Perth

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55 Bannister Rd Canning Vale  
WA 6155

## Contact

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1300 945 930  
[info@modusaustralia.com.au](mailto:info@modusaustralia.com.au)