

# Warringah Council

## **Profile of People with Disabilities**



Prepared by  
Moxon, Green and Associates Pty Ltd  
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# Profile of People with Disabilities Living in Warringah

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## 1.0 Introduction

Warringah Council covers an area of 153 square kilometres on Sydney's Northern Beaches. The Warringah Local Government Area comprises 26 suburbs.

This demographic profile is concerned with the residents of Warringah who have disabilities.

There is no available data on the exact numbers of people with disabilities living in Warringah. This profile has been developed by applying the data collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in its 1998 survey and reported in *Disability, Ageing and Carers: Summary of Findings 1998* (4430.0) to the population estimated to live in Warringah in 1998, as reported by the ABS in *Population by Age and Sex (NSW) 1998* (3235.1).

Given that the Disability, Ageing and Carer survey was conducted in 1998, it seems appropriate to assume a Warringah population in 1998 of 132,520, as estimated by the ABS.

However, it needs to be stated at the outset that the figures in this profile can only be taken as a guide.

The Australia wide figures are based on a sample. The size of the sample (15,315 private dwellings, 399 non-private dwellings and 626 cared accommodation establishments) provides reliable data for Australia, and in general for each of the States. When the data is applied at the LGA level, there is no reason to be confident that the profile will be the same as for Australia as a whole, but we believe that it will provide a useful guide.

Warringah may indeed be different from the national profile. There is anecdotal evidence that many parents of children with disabilities choose to live in Warringah to take advantage of the specialist services available in the LGA. Unfortunately no hard data is available to support this belief.

Nevertheless, the Australia wide data when applied to Warringah provides a guide to the extent of disability in the community and can be used as a guide to the extent to which people with disabilities might desire to access services, participate in recreational and cultural activities, use public transport, etc.

### Definition of Disability

There are a number of different definitions of disability, each developed to address a specific purpose. The definition used in this report is the one used by

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the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). In *Disability, Ageing and Carers: Summary of Findings 1998 (4430.0)* the ABS defined disability as follows.

A person has a disability if he/she has one of the following that has lasted or is likely to last for six months or more:

*Loss of sight (not corrected by glasses);  
Loss of hearing (with difficulty communicating or use of aids);  
Loss of speech;  
Chronic or recurring pain that restricts everyday activities;  
Breathing difficulties that restrict everyday activities;  
Blackouts, fits or lack of consciousness;  
Difficulty learning or understanding;  
Incomplete use of arms or fingers;  
Difficulty gripping;  
Incomplete use of feet or legs;  
A nervous or emotional condition that restricts everyday activities;  
Restriction in physical activities or physical work;  
Disfigurement or deformity;  
Needing help or supervision because of a mental illness or condition;  
Head injury, stroke or other brain damage, with long term effects that restrict everyday activities; or  
Any other long term condition that restricts everyday activities.*

The ABS uses the concept of “activity restriction” to describe the effect that a disability might have on a person. Some people may be affected quite markedly by their disability while others are less affected or not affected at all in going about the usual activities of life.

The ABS identifies certain “specific restrictions” as the indicators of significant effect of a disability.

The ABS defines **specific restrictions** as:

*Core activity restrictions; and/or  
Schooling or employment restrictions*

**Core activities** are:

**Self care** - bathing or showering, dressing, eating, using the toilet and managing incontinence;

**Mobility** - moving around at home and away from home, getting into and out of a bed or chair; and

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**Communication** - understanding and being understood by others: strangers, family and friends.

**Core activity restrictions** may be:

- Profound** – unable to perform a core activity or always needing assistance;
- Severe** – sometimes needing assistance to perform a core activity;
- Moderate** – not needing assistance, but having difficulty performing a core activity;
- Mild** – having no difficulty performing a core activity but using aids or equipment because of disability.

### Local data

In addition to the data collected by the ABS this profile includes some data collected from organisations providing services to people with disabilities in Warringah.

A total of 88 organisations were approached and asked to provide information about the numbers of clients they have who live in Warringah.

This information is reported in Section 9. A copy of the letter sent to the organisations and the survey form are in Appendix A and the names of the organisations which responded are in Appendix B.

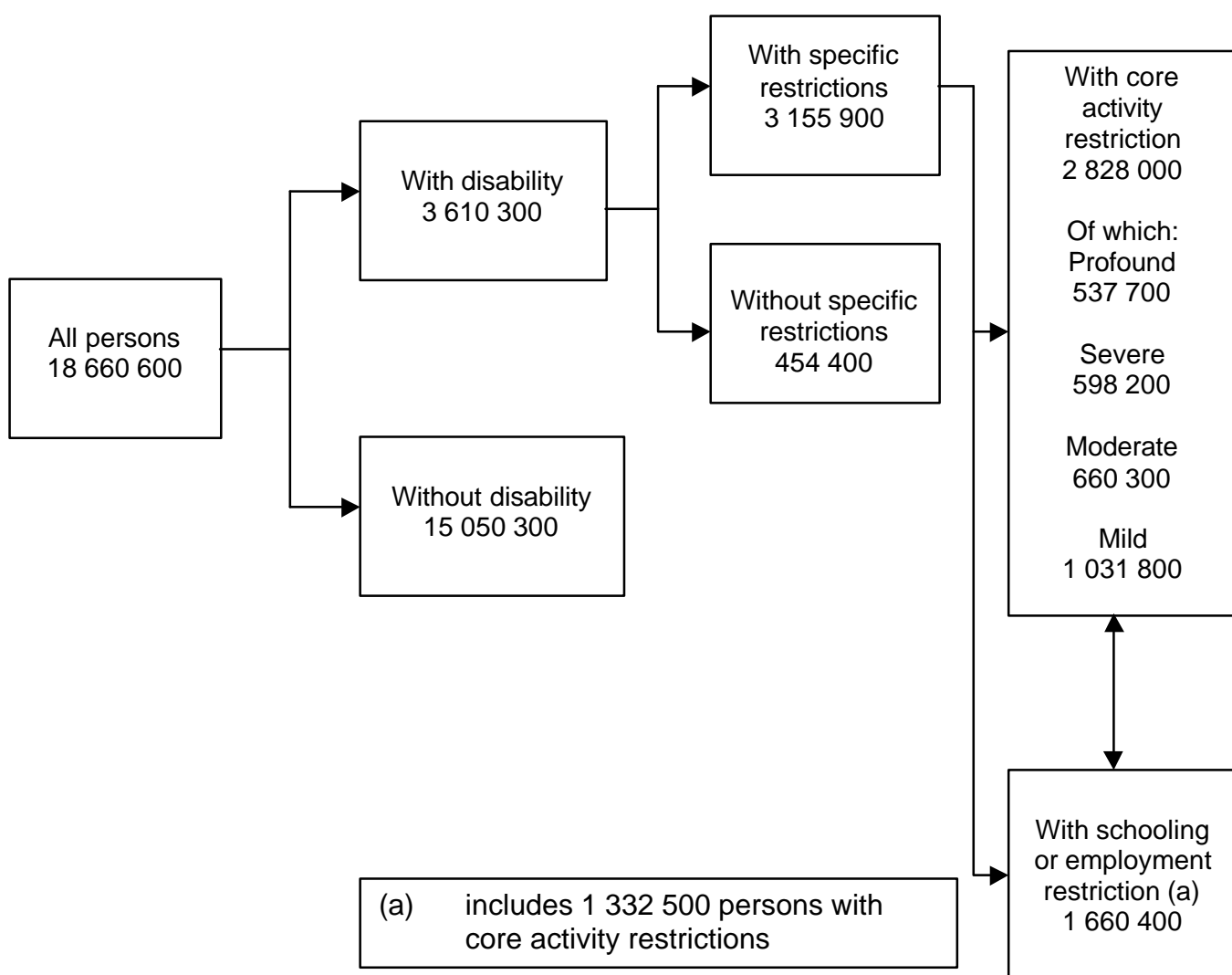
## Profile of People with Disabilities Living in Warringah

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) reports that in 1998 some 19.3% of the Australian population had a disability that results in a restriction in activity.

A further 16.6% of the population has a long term impairment or condition that does not restrict their everyday activities. These people are not included as people with disabilities in the following profile.

Table 1 shows the numbers of Australians with and without disabilities in 1998.

**Figure 1**      **Australians with Disability in 1998**



Source. ABS Disability, Ageing and Carers Summary of Findings 4430.0 1998

### 2.0 Executive Summary and Implications for Warringah

#### 2.1 Summary

Unfortunately there is no hard data available that can be drawn on to specify the precise numbers of people with disabilities living in Warringah.

This Profile has been developed by using two reports of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). In 1998 the ABS published the results of its survey of people with disabilities, older people and those who provide care to people with disabilities or older people (*Disability, Ageing and Carers: Summary of Findings 1998 #4430.0*). The disability data in that report has been applied to the estimates of the population of Warringah contained in the ABS report *Population by Age and Sex (NSW) 1998 #3235.1*.

Using the two ABS reports we can estimate that:

- there are 25,576 people living in Warringah who have a disability. That is 19.3% of the estimated 132,520 residents of Warringah have a disability.
- 95% of people with disabilities aged 15 to 64 years of age live in the community (i.e. not in "institutions")
- 83% of people with disabilities aged 65 years and older live in the community
- there are some 5,000 people with disabilities living in Warringah who need assistance with mobility
- there are almost 6,000 people who need assistance with transport
- there are almost 6,000 people who need assistance with housework
- there are over 8,000 people who need assistance with property maintenance
- 2,000 people with disabilities need assistance with meal preparation
- more than 5,000 people with disabilities who need assistance do not get all the help they require
- more than 1,000 people living in Warringah use a wheelchair or electric scooter
- more than 2,000 people with disabilities have difficulty using public transport because they cannot get to the bus stop
- more than 3,000 people have difficulty using public transport because they cannot use steps

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### 2.2 Implications for Warringah

Despite the tentative nature of the data on which this profile is based, there are a number of implications in the profile for Warringah Council.

People with disabilities are often considered to be a relatively small group of people who by and large live in institutions where their every need is catered for. This profile shows that both of these assumptions are quite wrong. There are over 25,000 people with disabilities living in Warringah and almost all of them live in homes in the community.

Just like other residents, people with disabilities have a desire to participate in community life.

Council needs to be aware that its decisions can have profound impacts on the extent to which people with disabilities can participate in their community.

Some of these decisions and their implications might be:

- deciding not to pave a particular footpath thus preventing people with mobility disability from getting to the bus stop to use the accessible bus service,
- deciding not to require unit developments to have a proportion of units built to the Adaptable Housing Standard (AS4299) thus missing the opportunity to increase the amount of accessible housing stock in Warringah,
- deciding to issue brochures or erect signs with small fonts or poor contrast thus preventing people with vision impairment from reading them,
- deciding to install glass “safety screens” at enquiry counters thus preventing people with hearing impairment from communicating with customer service officers,
- deciding that “communicating with people with a psychiatric disability” is unnecessary in the customer service training program thus disadvantaging people with psychiatric disability in their dealings with Council,
- deciding that access into shops from the footpath is entirely the shopkeeper’s responsibility thus limiting the number of shops that might be made accessible (accepting a joint responsibility could see many more shops made accessible),
- deciding to erect signs that have detailed printed messages may disadvantage people with intellectual disability (as well as people from a non-English speaking background).

This profile illustrates that making poor decisions, such as those above, can have a negative impact on a very significant number of people living in Warringah, as well as many more who may visit the area.

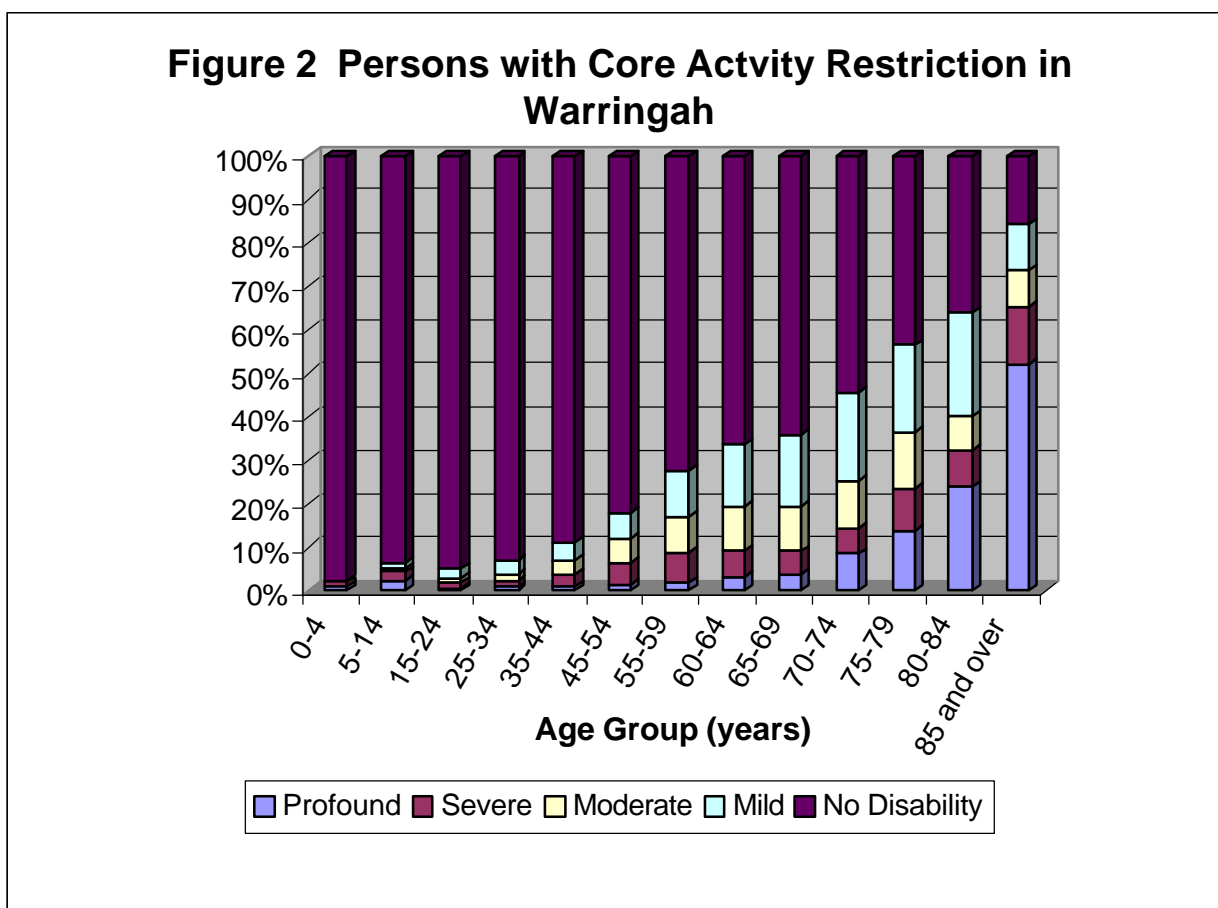
## Profile of People with Disabilities Living in Warringah

### 3.0 Overall profile of people with disabilities in Warringah

Figure 2 shows the percentage of people living in Warringah with different levels of Core Activity Restriction.

As can be seen, the proportion of people with a profound core activity restriction (always needing help with self care, communication or mobility) rises markedly after people reach the age of 60 years.

The proportion of people with a mild activity restriction (needing to use equipment to perform a core activity) also rises rapidly with age, particularly after the age of 44 years.

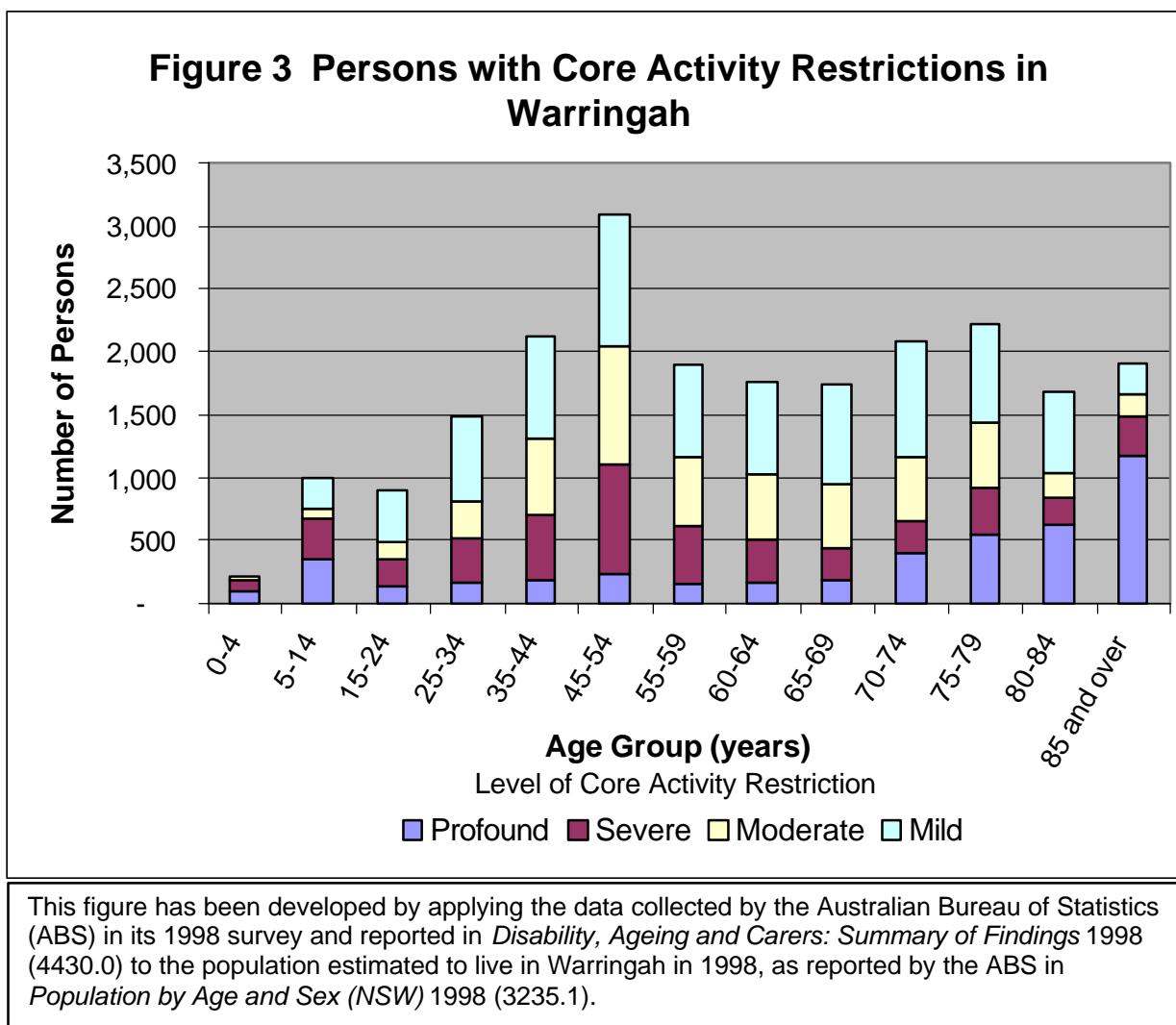


This figure has been developed by applying the data collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in its 1998 survey and reported in *Disability, Ageing and Carers: Summary of Findings 1998 (4430.0)* to the population estimated to live in Warringah in 1998, as reported by the ABS in *Population by Age and Sex (NSW) 1998 (3235.1)*.

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Figure 3 shows the number of people with core activity restriction living in Warringah.

The largest number of people is in the 45 to 54 years age group. This is the so-called “baby boomer” bubble. There are not many people in this age group who have profound levels of restriction but as they age it can be expected that this group will present challenges to service providers, both because of their numbers and the level of restriction they will have.



The ABS defines *core activities* as including:

- Self care
- Mobility
- Communication

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Restrictions in any of these core activities will impact on many of the following activities of daily living which are normally accepted as part of everyday life:

- Using the Child Care Centre, playgroup and kindergartens
- Attending primary and secondary schooling
- Attending tertiary education
- Maintaining a home
- Visiting friends and family
- Participating in a wide variety of recreational activities
- Going to full- time and part- time employment

These restrictions may limit a person's ability to participate in any of the activities listed above. Council can assist by providing the infrastructure and urban design, which provides safe, convenient accessible paths of travel for people with disabilities to participate.

Where the public has access to a facility, Council has a responsibility to ensure access is provided as part of any application for development. Hence Council has a responsibility to ensure that access is incorporated into the design of any building development, including the following:

- Access to premises used by the public
- Transportation
- Recreational facilities
- Accommodation
- Educational facilities

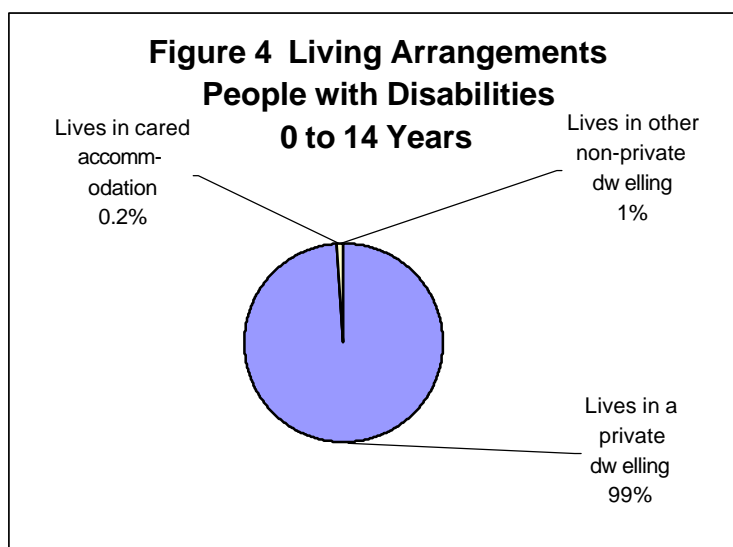
## Profile of People with Disabilities Living in Warringah

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### 4.0 Living Arrangements

Figures 4, 5 and 6 show the living arrangements of people with disabilities living in Warringah.

The most salient point in Figures 4,5 and 6 is that by far the majority of people with disabilities live in the community, not in institutions.



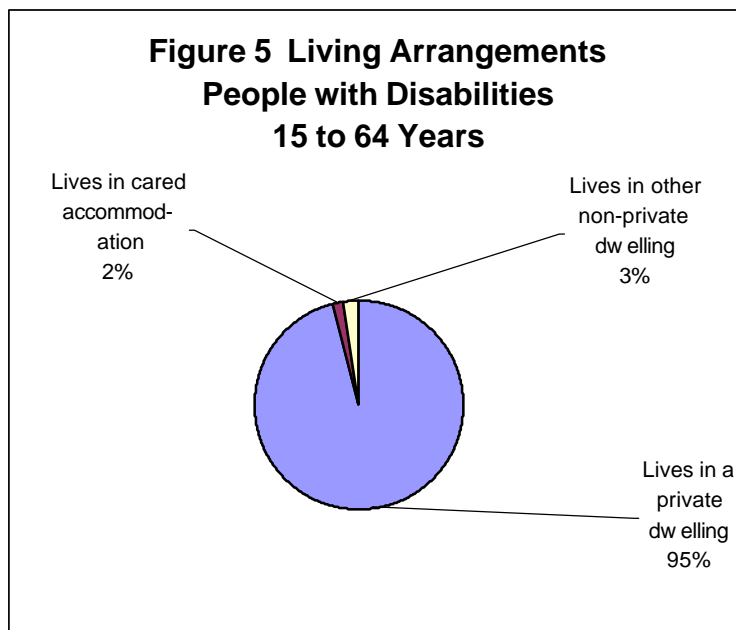
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**Note:**

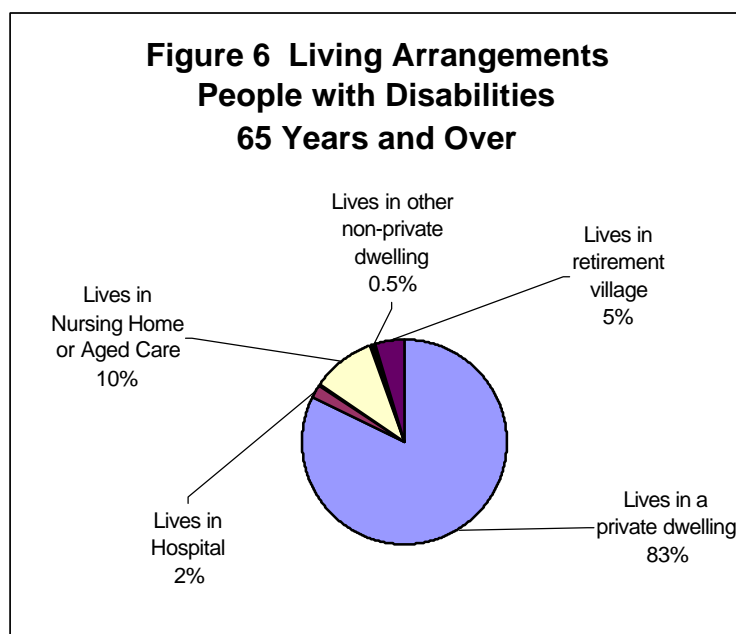
The ABS includes in “cared accommodation” hospitals, homes for the aged such as nursing homes and aged care hostels, cared components of retirement villages and other “homes” such as children’s homes.

“Other non-private dwellings” are defined as hostels for the homeless, hotels, motels, educational and religious institutions, construction camps, boarding houses, staff quarters, guest houses, short stay caravan parks, youth camps and camping grounds, and self care units in a retirement village which has cared accommodation on site.

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These figures have been developed by applying the data collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in its 1998 survey and reported in *Disability, Ageing and Carers: Summary of Findings 1998 (4430.0)* to the population estimated to live in Warringah in 1998, as reported by the ABS in *Population by Age and Sex (NSW) 1998 (3235.1)*.



Older people with disabilities, like other people, tend to live in the community in their own home. This has implications for Warringah Council. As people age and either acquire a disability or find their disability is exacerbated, they may

## **Profile of People with Disabilities Living in Warringah**

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need equipment or modifications to their house to enable them to continue living there.

Modifications to conventional housing stock to provide access can be prohibitive. This forces people to move, costing money and causing emotional pain.

Where houses and units have been built to the Adaptable Housing Standard (AS 4299) modifications can be made cheaply, thus enabling the person to remain in their home.

The information in the above figures reinforces the importance of providing safe, convenient access so that all people in the community, including those in care accommodation, and private accommodation, whether they have a disability or not, have the same opportunities to participate in all activities of daily living.

Due to the deinstitutionalisation of major disability service organisations, such as the Spastic Centre of NSW and the Sunnyfield Association, younger people with disabilities who previously were accommodated at these facilities, now live in the community. These people are now being encouraged to participate in all activities of community living, and hence require access to all places where the public has access.

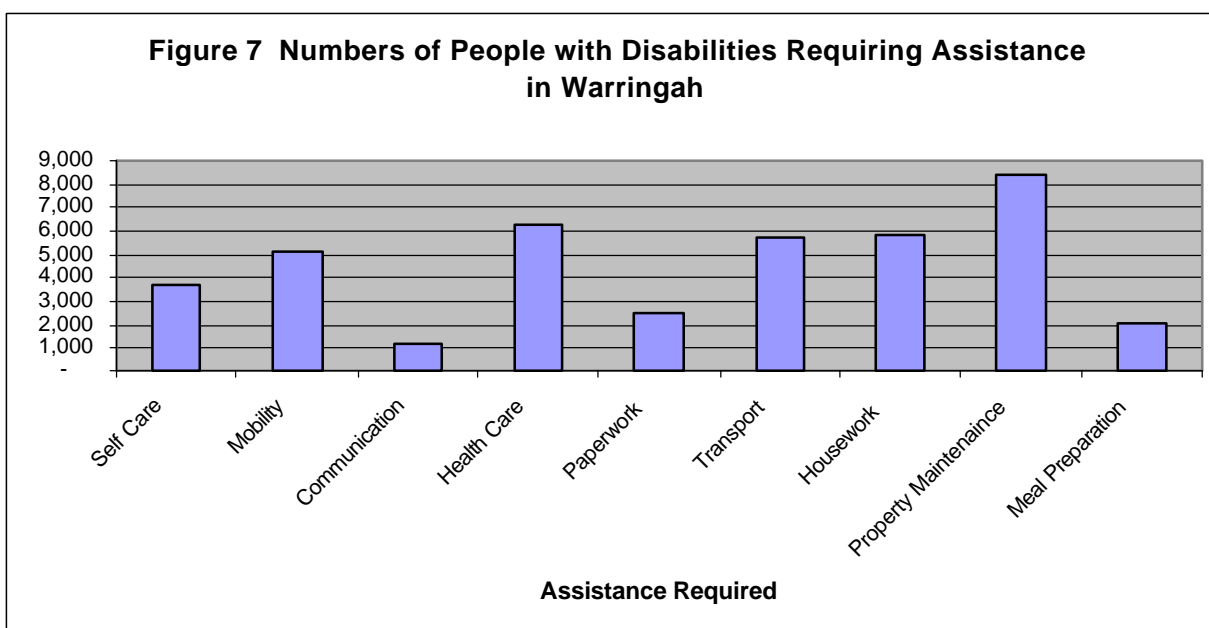
The lack of adaptable housing in the Warringah LGA may force a person with limited mobility into inappropriate institutional care or to move out of the locality. Council has a responsibility to adopt Adaptable Housing standards to assist people who are aging and younger people with disabilities, to age with friends and family in their own communities.

## Profile of People with Disabilities Living in Warringah

### 5.0 Assistance

People with disabilities can require assistance with a range of activities to enable them to participate in society.

Figure 7 shows the types of assistance that people with disabilities living in Warringah require and the number requiring it. Some people, of course, require more than one kind of assistance.



This figure has been developed by applying the data collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in its 1998 survey and reported in *Disability, Ageing and Carers: Summary of Findings 1998 (4430.0)* to the population estimated to live in Warringah in 1998, as reported by the ABS in *Population by Age and Sex (NSW) 1998 (3235.1)*.

The significance of activities identified in this figure, reinforce the importance of Community Services staff within Council lobbying State and Federal Governments for increased funds to ensure that people with disabilities have the opportunity to live in their own homes for as long as possible.

For younger people with disabilities the more important HACC (Home and Community Care) programs include:

- Self Care and Housework most commonly provided by the Home Care Service of NSW
- Transport most commonly provided by Community Transport.

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For older people with disabilities the more important Home and Community Care (HACC) programs include:

- Health Care provided by the Allied Health Care,
- Meal preparation provided by Food Services,
- Home Maintenance provided by Easy Care Gardening.

Many younger people with disabilities would prefer to receive assistance with personal care through the Attendant Care Program which provides for greater flexibility and increased control for those receiving it. Limited resources means that there is currently a waiting list for this program. This is another area that Council could request of the State Government that funding be increased.

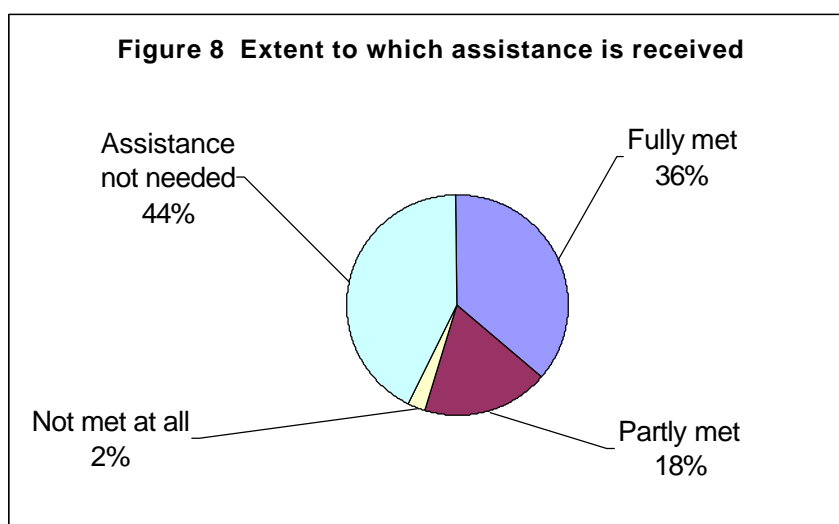
## Profile of People with Disabilities Living in Warringah

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Unfortunately, not all people who require assistance receive it. Figure 8 shows that 20% of people in Warringah requiring assistance either do not receive any or have their needs only partly met.

Of course, this is not necessarily the responsibility of Council – most services required by people with disabilities are the responsibility of State and Federal governments.

Nevertheless, it is instructive for Council to be aware that a considerable number of Warringah residents with disabilities do not receive the services they need to participate in society.

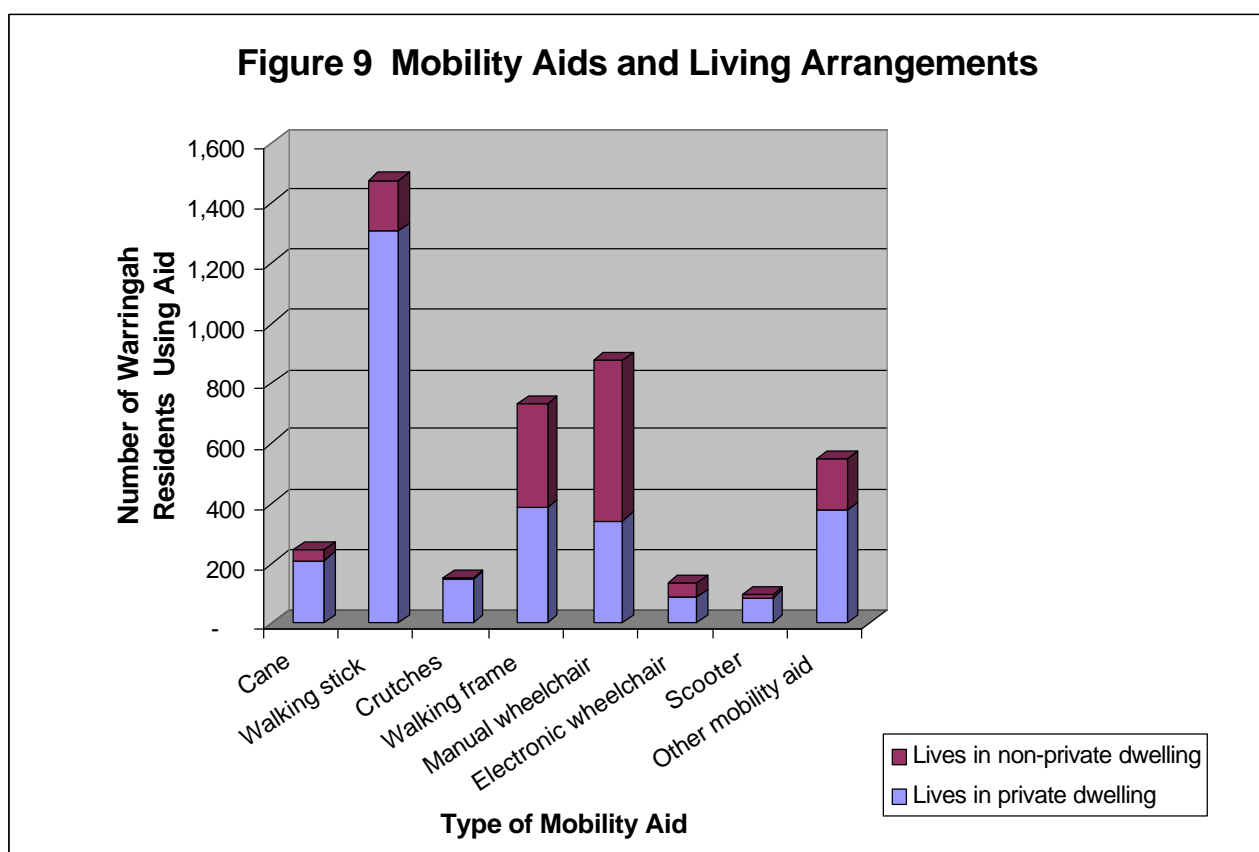


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### 6.0 Mobility Aids and Living Arrangements

Many people with disabilities require aids to assist them with mobility. These aids can be as simple as a walking cane to as complex and expensive as an electronic wheelchair costing many thousands of dollars.

Figure 9 shows that some 17,000 people (approximately 13% of the community) in Warringah require a mobility aid to access the community. Hence it is vital that Council provides safe footpaths, kerb ramps, pedestrian crossings, lighting, on-street and off-street parking, safe bus and taxi connections, toilets and shop access. It is important that these features have been included within the Design Guidelines of the Warringah Local Environment Plan.



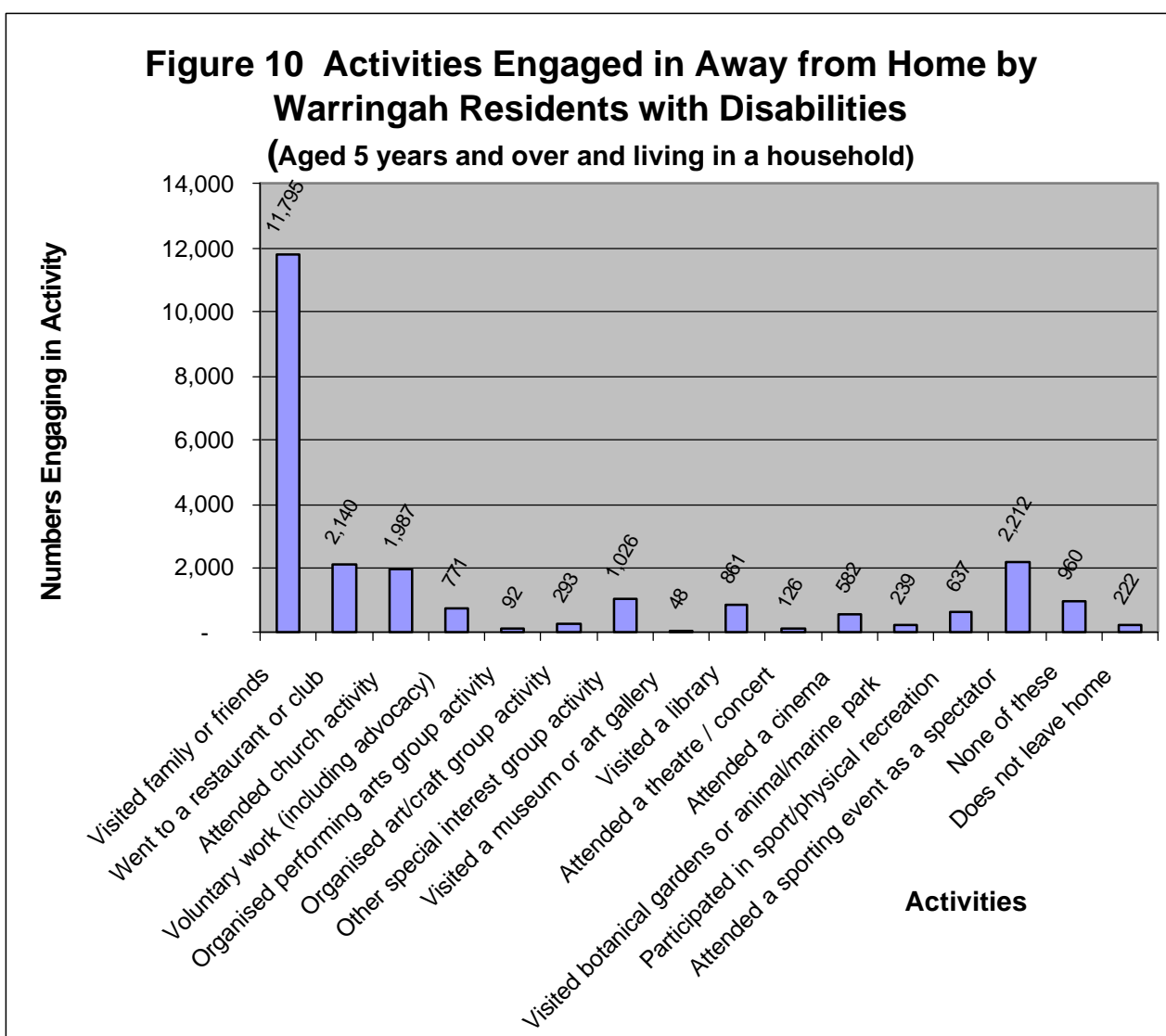
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## 7.0 Activities engaged in Away from Home

People with disabilities participate in society. Many are restricted from doing so as often as they would like, and many find it difficult or impossible to visit some places.

However, when the opportunities present themselves, people with disabilities engage in as broad a range of activities as the rest of the population.

Figure 10 shows the range of activities engaged in the past twelve months.



This figure has been developed by applying the data collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in its 1998 survey and reported in *Disability, Ageing and Carers: Summary of Findings 1998 (4430.0)* to the population estimated to live in Warringah in 1998, as reported by the ABS in *Population by Age and Sex (NSW) 1998 (3235.1)*.

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Figure 10 illustrates the importance to people with a disability living in Warringah of there being a range of non-vocational activities, particularly attending a sporting event and visiting a library. Council provides a range of facilities, each providing a variety of non- vocational and recreational activities, including the following:

- Community Centres
- Libraries
- Child Care Centres
- Beaches and Surf Life Saving Clubs
- Public pool facilities
- Parks and Reserves
- Sportfields

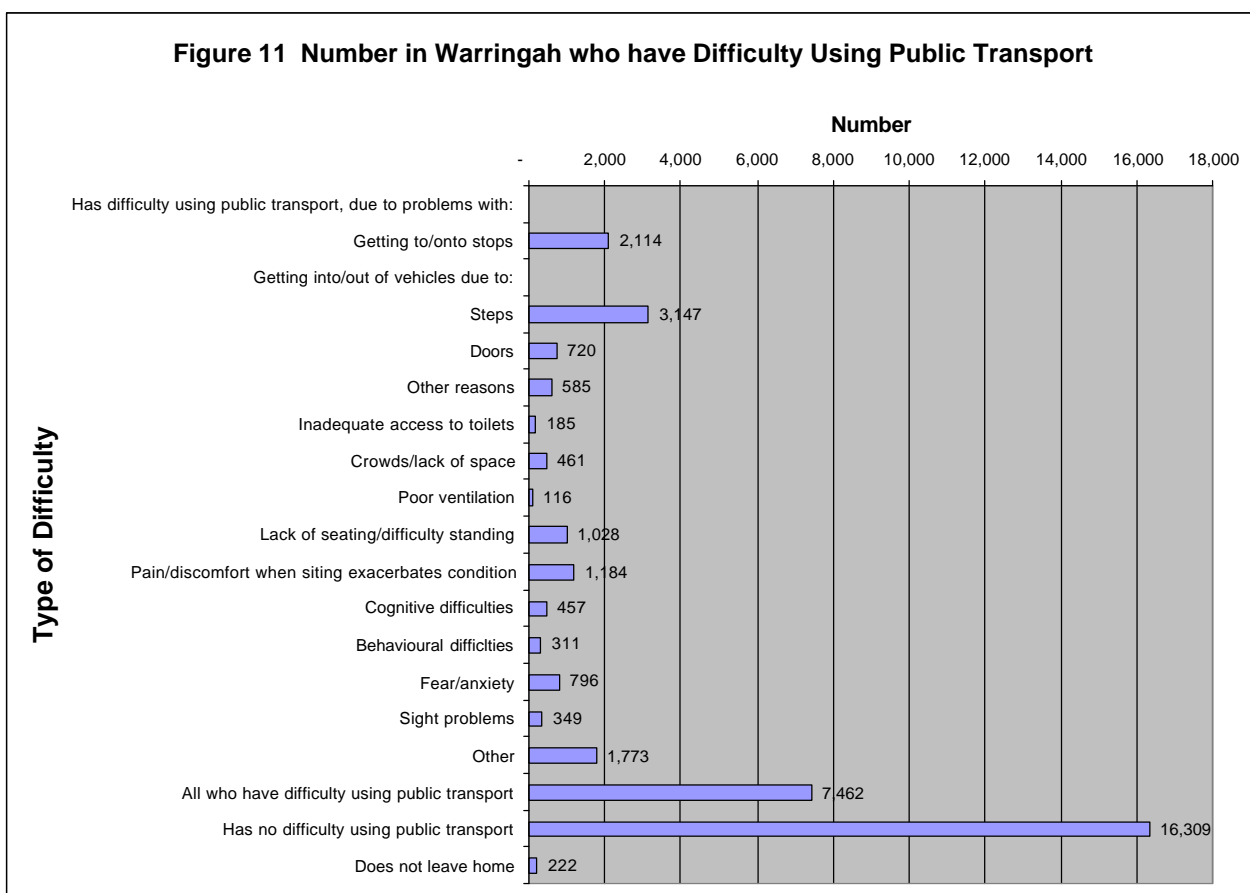
Council has an additional responsibility however to provide these services in an accessible way.

Council must also provide information about access to these goods, services and facilities. Information needs to be available in a number of formats to ensure that some people with a disability are not prohibited from accessing this information.

## 8.0 Transport

### 8.1 Public Transport

A major barrier to people with disabilities has been the inaccessibility of public transport. This is improving as the State Transit Authority purchases low floor buses fitted with wheelchair ramps. In Warringah there are now 12 low floor accessible bus routes operating.



This figure has been developed by applying the data collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in its 1998 survey and reported in *Disability, Ageing and Carers: Summary of Findings 1998 (4430.0)* to the population estimated to live in Warringah in 1998, as reported by the ABS in *Population by Age and Sex (NSW) 1998 (3235.1)*.

Figure 11 shows the major difficulties that people with disabilities face when they attempt to use public transport.

As Figure 11 shows, many people with disabilities have difficulty or are unable to even get to the bus stop. In some cases this will be due to distance, but in others

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it can be because footpaths are not paved or kerbs do not have wheelchair ramps.

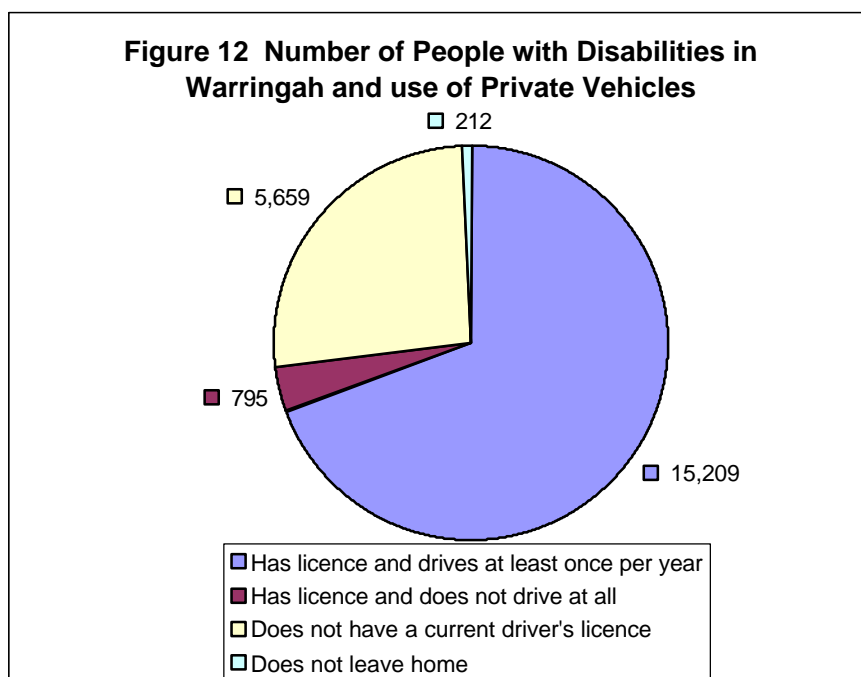
Although Warringah Council is not responsible for providing public transport, it is responsible for providing access to bus stop and bus shelter infrastructure.

The STA operates twelve (12) accessible bus routes from the Brookvale and Mona Vale bus depots. Consequently Warringah Council has a responsibility to provide for access in the following infrastructure:

- Footpaths
- Kerb ramps
- Lighting
- Pedestrian crossings
- Bus stop and bus shelter design

### 8.2 Private Transport

Many people with disabilities rely on the private motor vehicle for their transport. However, as Figure 12 shows many people with disabilities do not have a driver's licence. Almost all who do have a licence drive regularly.

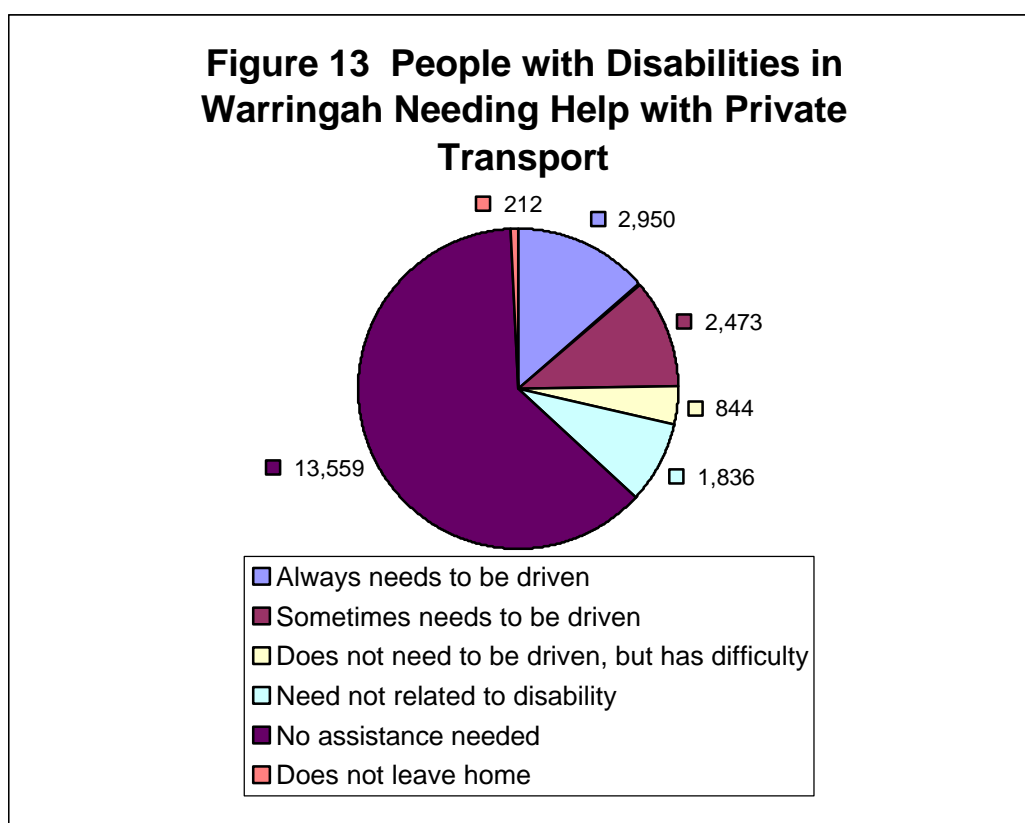


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Figure 13 shows that most people with disabilities do not need assistance with private transport.

On the other hand there are some 5,000 people with disabilities living in Warringah who either need to be always driven or who sometimes need to be driven. In other words there are at least 5,000 possible clients for community transport services.



This figure has been developed by applying the data collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in its 1998 survey and reported in *Disability, Ageing and Carers: Summary of Findings 1998 (4430.0)* to the population estimated to live in Warringah in 1998, as reported by the ABS in *Population by Age and Sex (NSW) 1998 (3235.1)*.

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### 9.0 People with Disabilities Receiving Services from Organisations

A total of 88 organisations which provide services to people with disabilities were contacted and asked to provide information on the numbers of their clients who live in the Warringah LGA, the level of their activity restriction and their age group.

Responses were received from 23 organisations (26%). Not all organisations were able to provide information to the level requested.

A copy of the survey questionnaire is in Appendix A. The names of the organisations which responded are in Appendix B.

It needs to be noted that not all people with disabilities seek services from organisations – even many people with profound activity restriction may not be registered as a client of an organisation.

The following figures represent only those who are registered.

#### 9.1 Analysis

Of the 88 organisations that were contacted, 23 organisations (26%) responded to the written request for information.

Of those organisations responding, 18 were able to provide statistics about 1726 clients or members living within the Warringah local government area.

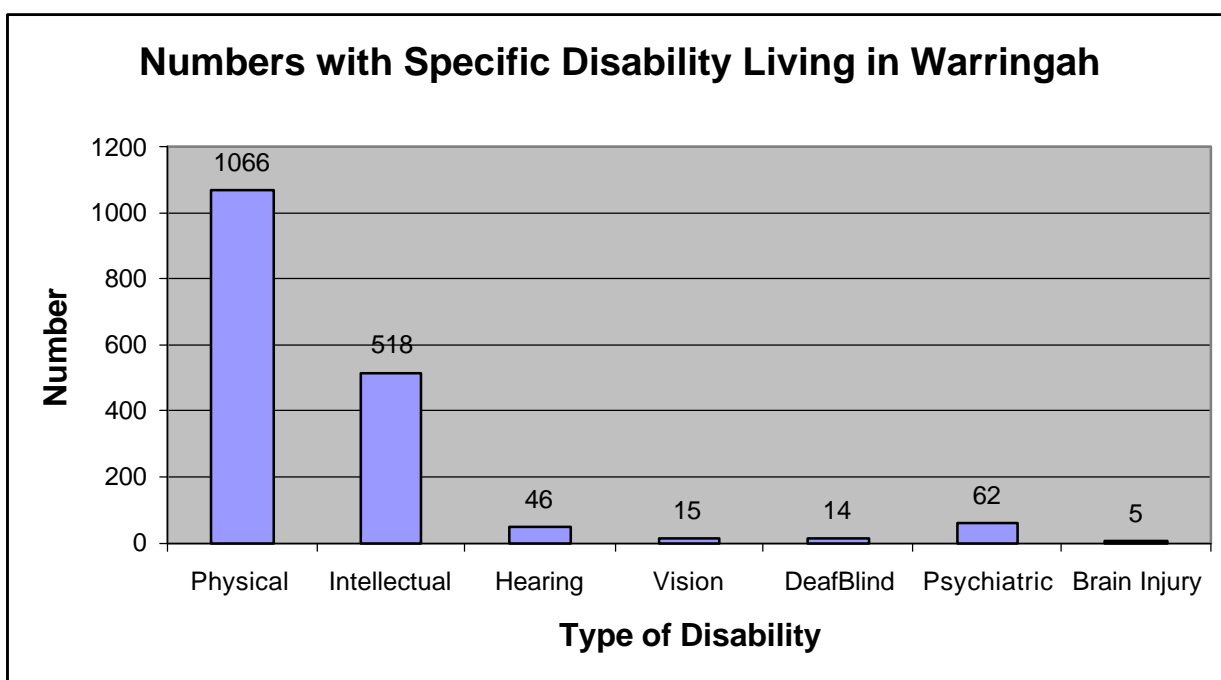
##### *Primary disability and level of disability of clients/ members*

<b>Disability</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Profound</b>	<b>Severe</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Mild</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Physical	1066	20	649	159	71	167
Intellectual	518	111	43	62	298	4
Hearing	46	19	9	10	8	9
Vision	15	2	1	0	12	0
DeafBlind	14	5	3	6	0	0
Psychiatric	62	0	0	0	3	59
Brain Injury	5	3	0	2	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1726</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>230</b>

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This is 6.7% of the 25,576 people with disabilities expected to be living in the Warringah local government area (assuming that in Warringah, like in Australia as a whole, 19.3% of its population has a disability).

**Figure 14 – Numbers of People with Disabilities Living in Warringah who are Reported to be Clients of a Service Provider**



This figure has been developed using the data collected in response to a survey of organisations providing services to people with disabilities who live in Warringah. It probably understates the numbers of people with disabilities living in Warringah as not all organisations responded to the survey and not all people with disabilities seek services from organisations.

It should be noted that by far the highest number of respondents were organisations of people with physical disabilities (see Appendix B).

Reasons for the level of interest by these groups include the high priority given by people with physical disabilities to access issues – an area where local government has a major responsibility.

However, people with arthritis – who can have severe mobility impairments – are not represented in these figures. There may also be some double counting as well, due to some residents with severe physical disabilities – for instance cerebral palsy – belonging to more than one organisation.

It is worth noting that the major service providers for people with severe sensory impairments did not respond. It can be expected that a significant proportion of Warringah residents have either a significant loss of vision or hearing.

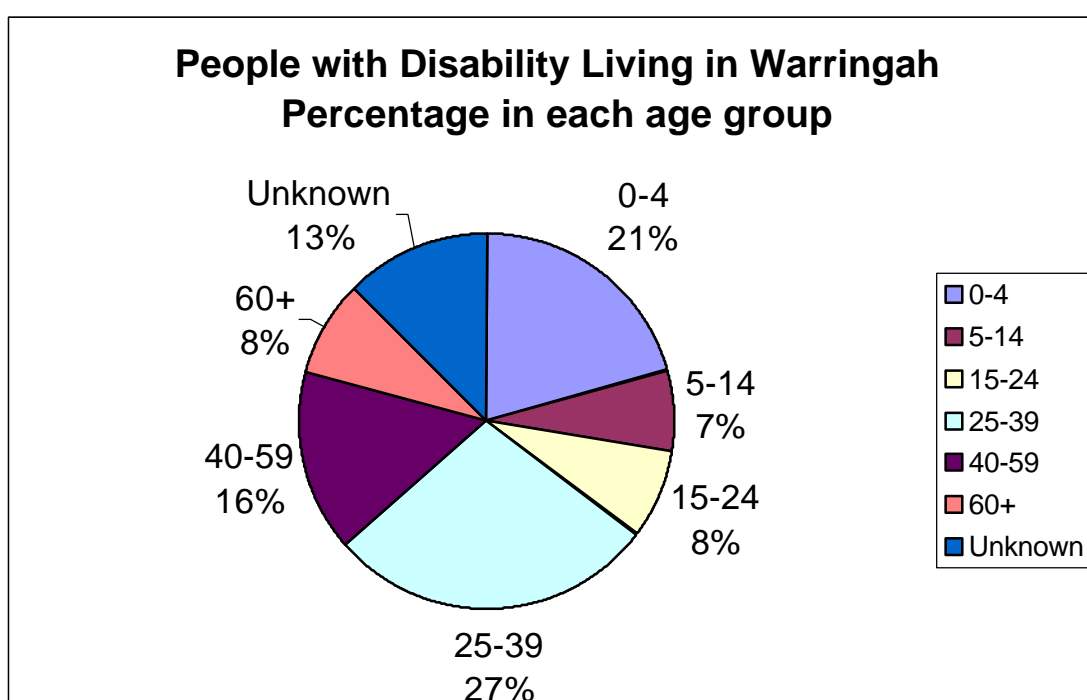
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*Ages of clients / members of responding organisations*

Disability	Total	0-4	5-14	15-24	25-39	40-59	60+	Unknown
Physical	1066	298	106	50	146	186	125	155
Intellectual	518	10	14	70	334	76	10	4
Hearing	46	34	0	1	4	3	4	0
Vision	15	3	0	4	2	2	3	0
DeafBlind	14	5	1	5	2	1	0	0
Psychiatric	62	0	0	1	0	1	1	59
Brain Injury	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1726</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>218</b>

As shown in Figure 14 below, the two largest age groups reported were the 0 to 4 years and the 25 to 39 years age groups. The high number of children reported is possibly due to the numbers of children associated with the Spastic Centre and the Sunnyfield Association. Likewise the high numbers in the 25 to 39 years age group are mostly due to the large numbers in this group reported by the Sunnyfield Association.

**Figure 15 Percentage of Disability Type**



This figure has been developed using the data collected in response to a survey of organisations providing services to people with disabilities who live in Warringah. It probably understates the numbers of people with disabilities living in Warringah as not all organisations responded to the survey and not all people with disabilities seek services from organisations.

## **Profile of People with Disabilities Living in Warringah**

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Unfortunately little can be drawn from this data as to the actual numbers of people with disabilities living in Warringah as many people do not belong to a service provider organisation and in any case some three quarters of organisations did not respond to our request.

### Appendix A

#### Survey sent to Disability Service Providers

Letter sent to Disability Service Providers.

XX May 2000

Dear XXX

Moxon, Green and Associates has been contracted by Warringah Council to develop a draft Disability Action Plan which will detail the strategies Council intends to implement to improve access for people with disabilities.

There is a widely held view that Warringah Local Government Area has a disproportionately high number of people with disabilities living in it. In an attempt to clarify this proposition, we have been asked to prepare a profile of people with disabilities living in the Warringah.LGA, using information held by community groups and service providers.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could provide the information in the attached table about your members / consumers. It is appreciated that you may not have all the information that we have asked for– details on age, for example. However, we would appreciate as much information as you can provide.

As you can see, we have not asked for any information that would identify a particular person. All information will be held in the strictest confidence and no organisation will be identified in the report.

## Profile of People with Disabilities Living in Warringah

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We have adopted the definition of “core activity restriction” used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). This is to allow us to compare our figures with the results of the 1998 ABS survey of people with disabilities.

It will be greatly appreciated if you can indicate the numbers of members / customers with different levels of participation restriction. We have attached the ABS definition of disability for your information.

We appreciate that asking you to provide this information is an imposition on your very valuable time. However, we believe that accurate, up to date information about the numbers of people with disabilities living in Warringah LGA will allow Council to implement strategies which will have maximum benefit.

Please feel free to contact John Moxon on 9639 9110 to discuss any aspect of this project.

If you can send your responses by Friday 19 May 2000 it will be greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully

John Moxon  
Director

## Profile of People with Disabilities Living in Warringah

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Using the form on the following pages, please advise us of the numbers of people with disabilities who live in the Warringah Local Government Area (LGA) whom you have as members or for whom you provide services by:

- ✓ Type of disability (using the commonly used categories)
- ✓ Level of restriction of a core activity (see ABS definitions)
- ✓ Gender, and
- ✓ Age.

Warringah LGA covers the following suburbs:

Terrey Hills	2084
Belrose	2085
Frenchs Forest	2086
Forestville	2087
Harbord	2096
Collaroy Beach	2097
Dee Why	2099
Brookvale	2100
Narrabeen	2101

We appreciate that you may not be able to provide all this information. However, we would be most grateful if you can provide as much information as possible.

Please note that no organisation will be identified in the published profile.

## Profile of People with Disabilities Living in Warringah

Type of disability (if multiple disabilities – primary disability)	M	F	Age					
			0 – 4	5 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 39	40 - 59	60 +
Core activity restriction								
<b><i>Physical</i></b>								
Profound								
Severe								
Moderate								
Mild								
<b><i>Intellectual</i></b>								
Profound								
Severe								
Moderate								
Mild								
<b><i>Hearing</i></b>								
Profound								
Severe								
Moderate								
Mild								
<b><i>Vision</i></b>								
Profound								
Severe								
Moderate								
Mild								
<b><i>Brain injury</i></b>								
Profound								
Severe								
Moderate								
Mild								

## Profile of People with Disabilities Living in Warringah

Type of disability (if multiple disabilities – primary disability)	Core activity restriction	M	F	Age					
				0 – 4	5 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 39	40 - 59	60 +
<b>Psychiatric</b>									
	Profound								
	Severe								
	Moderate								
	Mild								

Your organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for providing this information.*

Please return this form to:

John Moxon  
Moxon, Green and Associates Pty Ltd  
PO Box 4834  
NORTH ROCKS NSW 2151

Or by fax to: John Moxon on 9639 9110

By: Friday 19 May 2000

### **Australian Bureau of Statistics Definitions**

(Disability, Ageing and Carers: Summary of Findings. 4430.0 1998)

The ABS definition of **disability** is:

A person has a disability if he/she has one of the following, which has lasted or is likely to last for six months or more:

*Loss of sight (not corrected by glasses);*

*Loss of hearing (with difficulty communicating or use of aids);*

*Loss of speech;*

*Chronic or recurring pain that restricts everyday activities;*

*Breathing difficulties that restrict everyday activities;*

*Blackouts, fits or lack of consciousness;*

*Difficulty learning or understanding;*

*Incomplete use of arms or fingers;*

*Difficulty gripping;*

*Incomplete use of feet or legs;*

*A nervous or emotional condition that restricts everyday activities;*

*Restriction in physical activities or physical work;*

*Disfigurement or deformity;*

*Needing help or supervision because of a mental illness or condition;*

*Head injury, stroke or other brain damage, with long term effects that restrict everyday activities; or*

*Any other long term condition that restricts everyday activities.*

## Profile of People with Disabilities Living in Warringah

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The ABS defines **specific restrictions** as:

*Core activity restrictions; and/or  
Schooling or employment restrictions*

**Core activities** are:

**Self care** - *bathing or showering, dressing, eating, using the toilet  
and managing incontinence;*

**Mobility** - moving around at home and away from home, getting into  
and out of a bed or chair; and

**Communication** - understanding and being understood by others:  
strangers, family and friends.

**Core activity restrictions** may be:

**Profound** – unable to perform a core activity or always needing  
assistance;

**Severe** – sometimes needing assistance to perform a core activity;

**Moderate** – not needing assistance, but having difficulty performing a  
core activity;

**Mild** – having no difficulty performing a core activity but using  
aids or equipment because of disability.

### Appendix B

#### Organisations Responding to Survey

Alzheimer's Association NSW\*  
Australian Quadriplegic Association Ltd.  
Better Hearing Australia (Sydney) Inc.\*  
Cansupport\*  
Cystic Fibrosis New South Wales  
DeafBlind Association (NSW)  
Early Education Clinic Inc.  
Epilepsy Association of NSW  
Ethnic Child Care, Family and Community Services Co-operative Ltd\*  
Golden Strave Shepherd Centre for Hearing Impaired Children  
House with No Steps  
Irritable Bowel Information and Support Association of Australia. NSW Division  
Meniere's Support Group\*  
Motor Neurone Disease Association of New South Wales  
Multiple Sclerosis Society of NSW  
Muscular Dystrophy Association of NSW  
The Northcott Society of NSW  
Northern Beaches Consumer Network  
Paraquad NSW  
Parkinson's NSW Inc. Pittwater-Mona Vale Support Group  
Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children  
Spastic Centre of NSW, North West Sydney Region  
The Sunnyfield Association

\*Responding with information not available.