



# Expression of Interest

## Disability Lived Experience Advisory Panel (LEAP)

Do you want to have your say in WA?

### Easy Read is available

If you have questions or need help to apply, please contact Beck by email [DisabilityLEAP@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:DisabilityLEAP@communities.wa.gov.au) or phone 0432 753 010.

You can apply online, by email, or over the phone.

More information about LEAP is available in the LEAP Terms of Reference.

## About LEAP

LEAP is an advisory panel of up to 10 people with lived experience of disability.

For LEAP, lived experience means:

- you are a person with disability, or
- you play an important unpaid role in the life of a loved one with disability.

LEAP members provide advice based on their personal lived experience to the Disability Division at the Department of Communities (WA Government).

The Disability Division sees LEAP as an important way to hear the voices of people with disability. LEAP's lived experience advice helps us to deliver targeted services, and build a WA system that puts the rights of people with disability at its centre.

## Principles

LEAP is guided by the following principles:

- Trauma-informed
- Culturally safe
- Accountable
- Empowering
- Respect
- Caring
- Inclusive
- Diversity
- Integrity
- Non-judgmental



## Who should apply

We want LEAP to reflect the diversity of the WA disability community.

We especially encourage applications from:

- People with disability
- Aboriginal people
- People living in regional or remote areas
- People who can speak up for children with disability or developmental delay

Current members tell us LEAP has been a safe place where they learn and grow together with the group. At LEAP meetings, everyone is encouraged to speak and feel heard.

## What LEAP members do

LEAP members:

- Share their lived experience and personal views
- Help reflect the experiences of others in the community
- Take part in respectful discussion
- Read papers and prepare for meetings
- Follow the Public Sector Code of Ethics and the Department of Communities' Code of Conduct.

Support is available to help members prepare and participate.

There is more information on LEAP member responsibilities in the Terms of Reference.

## Time commitment

LEAP meetings are held every 6 weeks, excluding December and January.

Members may be invited to up to 2 out of session meetings per year.

For each LEAP meeting, members should allow 4 hours. This includes:

- 2 hours reading and meeting preparation
- 2 hours meeting time.

Meetings are usually held in Fremantle. From time to time, meetings will be held in Perth.

Members can attend meetings online via Teams but are expected to attend most meetings in person.

Up to two regional, rural and remote members will be reimbursed to travel to two meetings per year in person. Other attendance will be online via Teams.

## Term

- Members are appointed for 2 years
- A 1-year extension may be offered
- Terms are flexible based on the needs of the group and the individual member

## Payment

LEAP members are paid for their time, knowledge, and expertise. Payments are in line with our Community Paid Participation Policy.

The current rate is \$200 for each LEAP meeting (including 2 hours reading and 2 hours meeting time). Out-of-session meetings are paid at the same rate.

Members may be reimbursed for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses directly related to participation in LEAP, including:

- Support to participate
- Transport (e.g. taxi, parking).

## Support and accessibility

LEAP is designed to be a safe, inclusive and trauma-informed space.

Meetings follow inclusive practice guidelines including:

- Plain language and Easy Read
- A slower pace and extra thinking time
- Adjustments to support different communication styles

Members may bring their own support person to meetings if needed, and have access to free counselling via our Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

We invite all members to share their access and inclusion needs so we can support meaningful participation. If you have any questions or concerns, please email [disabilityLEAP@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:disabilityLEAP@communities.wa.gov.au)

## How to apply

Complete the expression of interest online: [LEAP Expression of Interest – Fill out form](#)

OR

Write your answers to the expression of interest questions on the next pages and email us.

**All applicants must email a current resume (with 2 referees) to**

[DisabilityLEAP@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:DisabilityLEAP@communities.wa.gov.au)

## About you

Full name:

Address:

Phone number:

Email address:

### Lived experience:

- Person with disability       Family member       Carer

*We will ask more about your lived experience in the next questions.*

### Where do you live?

- Perth city       Regional area       Rural area       Remote area

### Do you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?

- Yes    No    Prefer not to say

### What is your age group?

- 18–24    25–34    35–44    45–54    55–64    65+    Prefer not to say

### Do you identify as LGBTIQ+?

- Yes    No    Prefer not to say

### Do you identify as being from a culturally or linguistically diverse (CALD) background?

- Yes    No    Prefer not to say

### Is there anything else you would like us to know about your identity?

## Selection criteria

### **1. Tell us about yourself and your lived experience of disability.**

For example, what is your disability? How do you identify? What kinds of life experiences have you been through?

### **2. Please tell us about times you have used your personal experience to speak up about issues affecting people with disability.**

This may be experience on similar groups or committees, or personal experiences of speaking up for yourself and others.

**3. Look at the LEAP principles on page 1. Which ones are the most important to you? How do they show up in your life?**

Please give examples of how you demonstrate one or two of the LEAP principles.

**More about you**

Please tell us more about your lived experiences.

**Disability experience:**

- Physical disability
- Psychosocial disability
- Intellectual disability
- Neurodevelopmental disability
- Speech or communication disability
- Other (please tell us more)
- Sensory disability
- Neurological disability
- Acquired brain injury
- Developmental disability
- Chronic illness or health condition

**Other areas of lived experience:**

- NDIS
- Mental health
- Children
- Health
- Quality and safeguarding
- Education
- Advocacy
- Restrictive practices
- Youth
- Housing
- Child Protection
- Justice
- Complex support needs
- Other (please tell us more)

**What supports, adjustments, or communication methods would help you to take part fully in LEAP?** (For example: screen reader accessible documents, plain language, large text, closed captioning, communication support, or an interpreter.)

**Thank you**

Please send your resume and answers to [disabilityLEAP@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:disabilityLEAP@communities.wa.gov.au)

**Selection process**

**Applicants must have lived experience of disability.** Support workers are not eligible.

Only applicants who can attend most meetings will be considered.

A criminal records screening may be required. This does not automatically exclude applicants and is paid for by Department of Communities.

A selection panel will shortlist applicants based on the selection criteria and current gaps in representation. The selection panel will include a person with lived experience.

Members will be appointed by Mhairi Cowden, Deputy Director General, Disability Division, Department of Communities.

**Closing date**

Friday, 19 June 2026