

# MEDIA STATEMENT



Friday, 3 February 2017

## **Participants needed for accessibility and inclusion research project**

People with disabilities (or family members/carers) who have an interest in community access and inclusion are invited to take part in a research project connected with the City of Bunbury's aspiration to become the Most Accessible Regional City in Australia (MARCIA).

Research group participants will have the opportunity to work with the City of Bunbury and Edith Cowan University in researching the barriers and facilitators to accessible facilities and inclusive services, and become involved in actions that will help to promote the importance of accessible and inclusive design.

Lead researcher and Marcia PhD student Adam Johnson said local governments and local businesses were important providers of community facilities, services and employment, and would be the main focus of the research.

"This research will also provide opportunities for collaboration and raising awareness with decision-makers in these sectors," Mr Johnson said.

Participants will be invited to attend regular meetings and research-related activities, on average about once per month over an 18-month period.

"Participants will be offered training in relation to the research activities, and will be fully supported in the research process," Mr Johnson said.

Participation is voluntary, and the meetings and research activities, though serious in nature, will be kept as light and engaging as possible.

A community information session will be held on Monday, 6 February at 10.30am at the City of Bunbury Function Room (4 Stephen Street). For more information or to obtain an Expression of Interest form, please contact Adam Johnson on 0488 047 990 or email [adamj@our.ecu.edu.au](mailto:adamj@our.ecu.edu.au).

The research project is supported by the City of Bunbury and Edith Cowan University.

**ENDS**

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