

**Submission
No 4**

INQUIRY INTO PUBLIC TOILETS

Name: Mrs Anne Doak

Date Received: 23 August 2024

In response to the enquiry into disabled access in public toilets, we feel obligated to report that the village of Bendemeer, in the Tamworth Regional Council area, has three public toilet facilities accessible to the travelling public.

Bendemeer is at the junction of the Oxley and New England Highways and is a main road to and from Inverell. It is a very busy stopover for travellers at the two picnic areas and overnight campers at the rodeo ground.

None of these sites has disabled access to the toilet facilities. The most used toilet at the main picnic ground, Memorial Park, should be condemned due to the health issues of seepage and the stench from the toilets. The other two facilities also do not have disabled access. At the Bendemeer Sportsground there is a newly installed picnic table which is disability friendly, but no disabled toilet available. It is every disabled persons right to have access, especially as Bendemeer is on a main tourist route. The closest disabled toilets are located 25 kms to the south, 50kms to the east, 50kms to the north and 60kms to the west.