



## Media release

16 June 2016

The NDIS has put disability on the political agenda. It's a scheme that all Australians can be proud of as it rolls out nation-wide, providing people with disability with the means to take part and to be heard.

The NDIS is no panacea. There are inequities that the NDIS does not and will never address, especially for the most vulnerable people with disability. QAI calls on all candidates and parties to commit to:

- A Royal Commission into the insidious domestic abuse of vulnerable people with disability by support workers, staff, management and co-tenants in their own homes, group homes, hostels and boarding houses. It is not recognised in the conversations about Domestic and Family Violence that a significant number of people with disability are subject to violence in their homes from people with whom they are NOT in a relationship but are forced to cotenant. Abuse of people with a disability is a human rights issue.
- A well-funded and stable advocacy sector: not one that is not homogenised into service provision.
- An end to the indefinite detention of people with intellectual/cognitive impairment in forensic facilities.
- Closing the gap for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability
- Universal Housing Design. It is not a home if you cannot get in the doors, use the kitchen or turn around in the corridors. It is not a home if it doesn't meet your disability support needs. An accessible home for someone who has an intellectual or cognitive disability or mental illness with specific needs may be one with double glazed windows, or reinforced walls, safety power-points and electrical wiring, or a location away from noise or busy roads. Accessible housing must be tailored to individuals' support needs.
- The minimum wage for people with disability who work in Australian Disability Enterprises ('sheltered workshops').
- Inclusive and restriction free education for people with disability.
- A national approach to support for decision making. People with disability must have opportunities to exercise their capacity and citizenship.

No matter who wins on 2 July, QAI urges the Federal Government to push the re-set button on the National Disability Insurance Scheme. Real choice and control have fallen by the wayside in the rushed roll-out. People with disability and their supporters must drive the NDIS, take control of their lives, supports and services, and end the conflict of interest with service provision.

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**QAI endorses the objectives, and promotes the principles, of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.**

**Patron: His Excellency The Honorable Paul de Jersey AC**