**Home and Living consultation submission**

**Name:** Meg (NSW)

**Date and time submitted:** 8/13/2021 3:28:00 AM

**How do you identify:** A family member, friend or carer of a participant or person with disability

# **Do you talk to people about how you would like to live?**

Yes

## **If not, why not?**

* I’m happy with my current arrangements:
* I don’t think I have the money to make changes:
* I don’t know where to start:
* I’m comfortable thinking about it on my own:
* I don’t want to talk about it:
* Other – please describe:

## **What kinds of things do you talk about / would want to talk about?**

* Who I want to live with: No
* Where I want to live: Yes
* What supports the NDIS funds: No
* What options are available: No
* What other people have done: No
* Not sure: No
* Not Applicable: No
* Other – please describe: No

# **Where would you like to get information to think about where and how you live?**

* Internet: No
* Social media: No
* Service providers: No
* Support Coordinator / LACs: No
* NDIS / NDIS website: No
* Friends and family: Yes
* Other participants / peers: No
* Government websites: No
* Peak bodies / advocacy groups: No
* Other – please describe: No

# **What information, learning and resources could we create to help you choose your home and living supports?**

* Examples of what options other people with disability might have chosen: Yes
* Someone to talk through my options with me: No
* Information that I can take away and read on my own: No
* Information given to providers: No
* Opportunities to talk with NDIS representatives on new options: Yes
* Other – please describe: Yes

Opportunities for my family to learn about what others have done and help to apply for support from people who are knowledgeable about individualised, innovative set ups.

# **How helpful is the NDIS website to find information on home and living supports?**

Somewhat helpful

## **What would improve the helpfulness of home and living information on the website?**

No answer recorded

# **Would it be helpful if your informal supports (e.g. friends, family and carers) knew more about how and where you want to live?**

Not sure

## **How can we work better with your informal supports to help them know more?**

No answer recorded

# **If your NDIS funding was more flexible, would you purchase different support/s for your home life than what you have now?**

No answer recorded

## **Such as?**

# **Who helps you to organise your NDIS supports?**

* Formal support, such as a support coordinator / LAC / NDIA planner or delegate: No
* Informal support, such as family / friends / carer / peer support networks / mentors: Yes
* No one / I self-manage my funds: No
* Other – please describe: No

## **How helpful is using formal supports?**

No answer recorded

## **How helpful is using informal supports?**

Very helpful

## **How helpful is using other supports?**

No answer recorded

# **Have you ever used peer support networks or a mentor to find / access NDIS supports?**

Yes

# **Of the following options, who would you be most likely to use to help you implement your plan?**

* Peer support networks: Very unlikely
* Mentors: Very unlikely
* Specialised home and living support coordinators: Extremely likely
* Support coordinator / LAC: Extremely likely
* NDIA planner / delegate: Extremely likely
* Family and friends: Extremely unlikely
* Other – please describe: Extremely unlikely

Advocacy organisations, Capacity development organisations like Family Advocacy NSW, CRU QLD, Belonging Matters VIC, Imagine More ACT

# **How would you like to encourage providers to offer new and innovative service options?**

* Pricing incentives for providers: No
* Recognition of innovative providers: Yes
* Newsletters: No
* Showcases: No
* Participant reviews and ratings: Yes
* Other – please describe: Yes

I think we need new providers as traditional ones aren't interested in changing their model. That said, new providers are mostly interested in money so want to group people to make more profit. Most participant want to live with friends, family people they know not random strangers.

# **Appendix D (see consultation paper) lists options for actions we could take to improve home and living in the NDIS. What other ideas would you add to Appendix D?**

small organisations in close to participants not maga agencies that dont know or care about the participant.

# **Do you identify as:**

* Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander? No
* From a culturally and linguistically diverse background? No
* Living in a rural and remote area? Yes
* LGBTIQA? No
* Having a psychosocial disability? Yes

# **Is there something you would like to see in a home and living policy specific to your response in previous question 12?**

It is hard to find accommodation as their is not much social housing. I live in a coastal area and the price of buying and renting has gone through the roof. It is unaffordable on the DSP. I would not qualify for SDA either so I really don't have options at all.

Phobias and personal safety are real issues for me so where I live needs to reflect that. Some of my issues are not rational but that is the nature of my mental illness combined with my intellectual disability. I need NDIA staff to understand this and be open minded about the supports I might need that they are unfamiliar with.

# **Is there anything else you would like to add?**

Many of the NDIA staff and LAC's don't have knowledge of individualised community options for people. They still think in old fashioned ways like Day programs, group homes, congregated services. My family plan for me to have a life with my supports in ordinary places with ordinary people doing ordinary things that I like. Agency staff and LAC's sometimes interpret that to mean I don't need support or the support should be unpaid. A lot of training needs to happen with Agency staff and LAC's but given the staff turnover that is probably unsustainable. Perhaps there needs to be a specialist unit that people like me can have our reviews with who understand innovation. It is very sad that some of us like my family who have been innovators my whole life inclusive education, self managed community participation, supported living fund etc now feel my great life is threatened by uninformed agency staff who think like the 1970's.