

Summary of key issues discussed at 2 September 2014, CEO Round Table Committee Meeting



Committee members present

Marcus Stafford (Chair), , Ron Regan, Terry Simpson, Julie Waylen, Marina Re, Tony Vis, Justine Colyer, Rob Holmes, Sue Ash, Matt Burrows, Judy Hogben, Tony Vis, Darren Ginnelly, Paul Coates and Ron Chalmers.

Apologies

Yvonne Parnell and Leanne Pearman

Other meeting attendees

Robyn Massey, Robyn McWaldron and Denise Berry (minutes)

Future accommodation – feedback from the sub-working group

The sub-working group met on a couple of occasions to discuss and explore options for future accommodation and what this may look like. The group explored what constitutes reasonable and necessary in relation to housing. The following criteria were identified as being reasonable and necessary in ensuring people with disability have their basic needs met regarding accommodation: Safety, Access, Choice, Belonging and Purpose. The group viewed this as a possible methodology going forward to address reasonable and necessary requirements for the future.

The following is a summary of the discussion and issues raised:

- Pricing – do not want institutionalised model as the only affordable option for people with disability – going backwards!
- We must provide choice and control.
- A methodology around housing models that is reasonable and necessary needs to be developed.
- How do we define what
- How do we define what is reasonable and necessary regarding housing?
- Appears to be some disconnect at the moment with housing issues – what can we do to build understanding?
- Individualised housing versus home ownership.
- Feedback was received from a number of consumers on what they would like to change in their housing. People with disability rated maintenance, then tenure, cost and accessibility as the most important things they would like to change about their housing.
- Partners and carers rated tenure as the most important factor by a large margin, followed by cost, type of housing, maintenance and accessibility as the things they would most like to change.
- Overall people rated tenure as the most important issue followed by maintenance.

- Need to look at different ways that people with disability can exercise choice and control.
- How do we stretch the target group?

Key issues raised by members for further consideration by the Commission

- Timing on this issue is very important. A further paper will be coming out from the Commonwealth regarding Housing.
- How are we going to make this work and be sustainable for the sector?
- Look at better use of existing resources – Department of Housing, Choice Based Letting – no extra capital needed.
- A more sensitive and sustainable approach needed for housing allocations; better for people with disability in the long term.
- Will there be a decreasing opportunity for home ownership with NDIA?

Pricing arrangements for the WA NDIS My Way trial in the Lower South West

R Chalmers advised:

- We clearly do not want fixed pricing.
- Trying to reach a range of prices that is sensible and sustainable.
- A WA NDIS My Way pricing framework has been developed to reflect the State's Delivering Community Services in Partnership Policy.
- Support clusters and price bands have been developed for use in WA NDIS My Way trial in the Lower South West.
- A pricing arrangements paper will be circulated to service providers in the Lower South West and to the sector in the next couple of weeks. It will be important that agreement is reached on a price range that will be realistic and sustainable and can operate within bands (range for low, medium and high support, different contextual realities, and different times of the week).
- There will be seven support clusters, which will be outlined in the pricing paper.
- State indexation will apply during the time of the trial only.

Key issues raised by members for further consideration by the Commission

- Is there anything else the CEO Round Table Committee could do to move this issue forward?
- Need a strong foundation that is flexible and sustainable.
- Need to be mindful of our statutory obligations.

Brief update on the WA NDIS My Way Trial in the Lower South West Region – video presentation

Following the video presentation R Massey provided members with an update on the WA NDIS My Way Trial in the Lower South West which included the following:

- It is expected that 500 people will transition in the first quarter.
- An expanded regional team has been fully established to offer greater support to people at the local level.
- There has been increasing interest in the WA NDIS My Way trial site; people want to see what it is all about.

- The WA NDIS My Way Scheme Actuary (Taylor Fry consultancy) has been appointed and is working closely with the Commission on the development of the first Quarterly Report.
- The WA Independent Evaluator (Stantons International) has been appointed, the evaluation methodology developed and contact with stakeholders commenced.
- The inclusion of people with psychosocial disability in the Lower South West has commenced, with two plans underway and positive engagement occurring with local mental health services.
- The Commission continues to work closely with non-government service providers to ensure maximum workforce capacity and responsiveness – 22 providers have been endorsed to provide services in the Lower South West (an increase of 14).

Key issues raised by members for further consideration by the Commission

- There seems to be some concern over the administration costs associated with the trial site.
- The sector does not want to lose the essence of service delivery, relationships with families are vital.

Feedback from the Board Chairs Forum – issues of importance to Board Chairs

R Chalmers advised that at a recent Board Chairs Forum attendees were asked to nominate topics / themes they would like to discuss at future events. It was broken into three themes as follows:

Theme 1 – A focus on the quality of disability services:

- Maintaining the quality of services
- Ensuring standards in specialist services
- Skills and expertise of staff (all categories)
- Quality services in regional areas
- Workforce expansion and development

Theme 2 – A focus on building an effective and sustainable disability sector:

- Competition versus collaboration
- Pricing
- Maintaining diversity in services
- Ensuring the survival of small to medium niche providers
- Choice of services
- Building scalability within organisations
- Promoting partnerships
- Marketing
- Advocacy
- Monitoring the impact of for-profit organisations
- Impact of Commonwealth Government directions on the local sector
- Strategies for maintaining the positive elements of the current system
- Interaction between disability services and mainstream services
- Maintaining the 'glue' in the system – Count Me In, Tier 2, etc.

Theme 3 – A focus on the NDIS:

- Information flows about the NDIS – to the sector and to consumers
- Stakeholder engagement
- Ongoing feedback from NDIS trial sites
- Sector readiness for the roll out of the NDIS
- Optimising consumer outcomes from the NDIS
- Monitoring trial sites in other states/territories
- Plan for roll out of NDIS in WA

Key issues raised by members for further consideration by the Commission

- How are organisations going to position themselves for the future with NDIS?
- How do we keep board governance afloat?
- Highlights the vulnerability of boards
- Possibility of a joint CEO/Chairs Forum