



Summary of key issues discussed 15 July 2014, CEO Round Table Committee Meeting

Committee members present

Ron Chalmers (Chair), Ron Regan, Terry Simpson, Marina Re, Tony Vis, Leanne Pearman, Justine Colyer, Rob Holmes, Sue Ash.

Ron Chalmers chaired the meeting on behalf of M Stafford.

Other meeting attendees

Chris Yates, Maynard Rye, Robyn McWaldron and Denise Berry (minutes)

Meeting Focus: Discussion regarding the process around new tenders

Maynard Rye provided members with an update on the new tender process and what it looks like:

- The tender has two main drivers:
 - 1) Delivering Community Services in Partnership Policy (WA State Government):
 - sustainable services
 - genuine community sector involvement in the planning and evaluation of services
 - clear process for the provision of funding that is transparent and accountable
 - reducing the administrative burden.
 - 2) Disability Services Reform, state and national. The disability sector is changing and reforming at a state and national level with an aim to ensure:
 - reasonable and necessary supports
 - individual choice and control over services
 - greater focus on outcomes rather than outputs
 - provide services to people with psycho-social disability.
- The Request has four parts:
 - Part A – Procurement Process Information
 - Service Agreement Details
 - Service Requirements
 - Response Form.
- Professional Services and Advocacy Services are out of the new tender.
- Has to meet Australian standards
- Has to meet quality standards.
- Will now have quarterly requirements in the My Way Trial sites.

- For the WA NDIS NDIA Hills trial site Australian Government policies and guidelines will apply.
- In regard to the pricing:
 - Prices are to be inclusive of all costs associated with the delivery of the service strategy.
 - NDIA rules apply for the WA NDIS Hills trial site; i.e. the support clusters and associated pricing – WA interim price list.

Key issues raised by members for further consideration by the Commission

- There doesn't seem to be any real commitment to the recovery model in relation to supports for people with psycho-social conditions.
- Will the tender make it clear about pricing in the WA NDIS My Way trial sites?
- DSOs have tendered through a contract process with the Commission. When does the indexation policy trigger – is it a price trigger?
- How will indexation work in the NDIS My Way model?

A brief update on the commencement of the WA NDIS My Way Trial in the Lower South West

Ron Chalmers provided members with an update on the commencement of the WA NDIS My Way Trial in the Lower South West (LSW).

Ron Chalmers advised:

- The Legislation and regulations are in place.
- Very impressed with IT Systems – on time and within budget. The Commission will be good to go with the first quarterly report.
- The Independent Evaluators are on board– will conduct comparisons across two trial sites, LSW and NDIA.
- The team in the LSW are a very good team who are across local issues. The Commission is currently securing new office premises in Busselton.
- The Commission launched its media campaign relating to the commencement of the WA NDIS My Way trial – campaign elements included: television, radio, press and digital (banner ads targeted at the Lower South West)

Ron Chalmers provided feedback on the LSW Service Providers (pricing workshop) held on the 14 July in the LSW.

Ron Chalmers advised:

- NDIA will have fixed pricing for services.
- NDIA have not yet announced their price (hourly rate) for services.
- The disability services system will be different in the Perth Hills and in the LWS.
- One key difference will be the way that services will be costed and the level of funding that will be applied to support and services.
- Last five years the WA State Government has been moving away from fixed pricing.
- WA does not wish to use a 'fixed price' approach – but there must be certainty in the cost of services.
- We need a set of arrangements that will ensure the sustainability of WA NDIS My Way and the Disability Sector Organisations.

- Using a price range to determine cost for services appears appropriate.
- Highlights the importance of working in partnership.
- Workshop participants felt there was a lack of clarity regarding unit costing – what is included in the cost of a strategy. There is a wide range of strategies in contracts and strategy descriptions across organisations not comparable.

Key issues raised by members for further consideration by the Commission

- People self-managing – concerns were raised around individuals not having enough information to make informed decisions. Not fully understanding their legal obligations and OSH issues.
- What is the DSO's role in self-managed options?
- People purchasing services are very worried how the providers will demonstrate quality.
- Concern around people with complex needs and psycho-social disability.

Local Area Coordination Capacity Analysis – Capacity to plan for LAC requirements over the next 5–10 years.

Chris Yates provided members with an overview of Local Area Coordination's Capacity Analysis and the plan for LAC over the next 5–10 years.

Chris Yates advised:

- LAC has been in place for 26 years.
- LAC has 42 offices across the state, 175 LAC's and they support 11,000 people with disability.
- LAC is the front end of disability service systems in both My Way and LAC.
- The My Way Coordinators will have a different role to LACs.
- What are we doing in My Way that may need to be mirrored in LAC?
- An external consultant is currently looking at the capacity of LAC past the two year trial period.
- The review will run over three months and will report back to the DSC Board around September/October.

Key issues raised by members for further consideration by the Commission

- Family members need to have a coordinator role and not the My Way Coordinator if you are talking about real choice and control.
- There seems to be an increasing presence of government particularly in the LSW.

Endorsed by Ron Chalmers, CEO Round Table

Denise Berry
30 July 2014