

13 March 2019

Dean Price
Senior Policy Officer
Housing and Social Security
People with Disability Australia

Sent via: deanp@pwd.org.au

Dear Dean

I refer to your request for support to improve the lives of people with disability in New South Wales.

It is shameful that people with disability are still excluded from services, support, housing, jobs and transport, and that they suffer violence, abuse, neglect, exploitation and incarceration at much higher rates than the rest of the population. We have a long way to go to achieve equality, inclusion and accessibility and I am committed to making this a priority.

I have been a strong supporter of the Stand By Me campaign and my contact with the Premier's office in the lead up to the recent rally helped achieve another year of funding. I also got a verbal commitment for ongoing funding of any advocacy service not covered by the National Disability Insurance Scheme and this will need follow-up after the election depending who forms government.

I have repeatedly called for a comprehensive social and affordable housing strategy to address our high rates of homelessness, house the people on the social housing waiting list and protect people who are at risk of homelessness. New social and affordable housing must include strong accessibility targets including in the inner city, which is close to jobs, transport and services. Much inner city social housing is not accessible and I've called for retrofitting established social housing to improve access.

NSW lags behind on accessible public transport and I've pushed for access upgrades to all stations in the Sydney electorate. It is an indictment that it took years to get lifts at Edgecliff Railway Station and major stations like Redfern remain inaccessible. I'm also concerned about the limited number of accessible buses having seen constituents left waiting in the cold and rain because the only accessible bus is full.

I support People with Disability Australia's policy platform and believe your asks are vital to making this state more inclusive and fair for people with disability. If re-elected, I hope to work with you on reforms and my office will follow up to arrange a time to meet after the election.

Yours sincerely



Alex Greenwich
Member for Sydney

