



Action for More Independence & Dignity in Accommodation

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Advocacy, Self Advocacy, Rights, Accessibility, & Community Living for People with a Disability

18 Jul 18

Department of Health and Human Services

Draft Disability action plan 2018 – 2020

Via email to the Office for Disability – ofd@dhhs.vic.gov.au

Feedback from AMIDA,

AMIDA is an independent advocacy organisation which advocates for good housing for people with disability. We provide advocacy to individuals, with priority given to people with an intellectual disability, and advocate for change in systems which prevent people from achieving good housing.

AMIDA strongly supports the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with a Disability and works to assert these rights and community inclusion for people with a disability.

AMIDA is in agreeance with the Draft Disability Action Plan on the concept of the Universal design approach being adopted, “making facilities and services accessible to people of all abilities, making everything usable for as many people as possible from the beginning so that changes aren’t needed later.” (Focus area 2)

AMIDA, being primarily around advocacy for people with disability in accommodation is interested in Housing : State disability plan indicator – 2.1.3 Increase suitable housing.

13.1 Incorporated the Livable housing design guidelines (gold level) into housing estate renewal projects.

13.2 Perform maintenance and upgrades on 700 department – run disability accommodation properties.

AMIDA is concerned about the statistics reported in the Auditor General report in March 2012 which state that over 10,000 properties were nearing obsolescence. We only imagine it’s a higher number than that now considering 6 years have passed.

Further to this AMIDA asks for an agreement that all DHHS relinquished stock to community housing organisations and groups are already renovated to gold level before being handed over. Or an agreement made that community housing organisations would renovate the stock to gold level on receiving. This does not however take into consideration the already stretched capacity of community housing groups and lack of funding resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback and we look forward to reading the completed document.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bronwyn Trickett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bronwyn Trickett
Advocate
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