

## TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE IN DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES

**The Greens** believe that all people have a right to independence, self-determination and choice in their lives. We believe that everyone should be given the opportunity to participate in all aspects of the social, political, economic and cultural life of our society, regardless of differing abilities – and that all people have the right to be informed participants in the decisions that impact upon their health and well-being.



This is why **The Greens** continue to advocate to give people living with a disability, their families and carers a greater opportunity to actively participate in policy development, service planning and delivery.

**The Greens** understand the urgent need for transformative sweeping change and believe the proposal for a **National Disability Insurance Scheme** provides an excellent framework to consider how to best achieve such change.



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## The Greens support transformative change in disability support services

**The Greens** fully support the principle behind the National Disability Insurance Scheme. We agree that the current model for providing services to people with a disability is complex and inadequate – driven by crisis rather than proper forward planning – and does not deliver the personalised, flexible services that people with disabilities and their families need to participate in everyday life.

We understand the urgent need for transformative sweeping change and the proposal for a **National Disability Insurance Scheme** provides an excellent framework to consider how to best achieve such change.

It is a basic human right and also the basis of sound economic and social policy that a person with a disability – no matter how the disability was acquired – should have appropriate and adequate support services that are equitable, efficient and fair. Funding such services is a challenge and we are attracted to the concept of a compulsory insurance levy which guarantees lifetime assistance for all Australians affected by severe disability, and which recognises the broader community benefit of supporting people with disabilities to reach their full potential.

We recognise that the National Disability Insurance Scheme is an important initiative that has the potential to greatly assist people with disabilities, their families and carers to return from the margins of society to actively participate in our world. We support the Productivity Commission inquiry into the proposal and look forward to its report and working with the government of the day to address its findings and recommendations.

There remain significant issues that need to be worked through to implement the much needed changes in the disability support services but we are optimistic that given the **Mad as Hell campaign** and other such advocacy there will be no more excuses for the next government not to act. The Greens will be there after the election keeping the pressure on the government, whichever party it is, to take the necessary action.

The Greens have long campaigned for and worked with people with a disability and their carers. We were at the forefront in condemning the welfare to work regime and its impact on people with a disability, we have consistently stood up for and advocated for the rights of people with a disability to access support services as they are needed.

To view The Australian Greens **Disabilities Policy**, please visit:

<http://greens.org.au/policies>

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