



QUEENSLANDERS WITH
DISABILITY NETWORK

NOTHING ABOUT US.....WITHOUT US

Suite 11, 7 O'Connell Tce, Bowen Hills Q 4006

ph/tty 073252 8566 fax 07 3252 8477

email qdn@qdn.org.au

website www.qdn.org.au

23 May 2014

General Manager
Social Policy Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

Sent to:

niisris@treasury.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

Queenslanders with Disability Network (QDN appreciates the opportunity to provide a submission on the National Injury Insurance Scheme: Motor Vehicle Accidents *Consultation Regulation Impact Statement*. QDN is an organisation of people with disability, offering a united voice for all disability types, to contribute to social and community change.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Paige Armstrong'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paige Armstrong
Chief Executive Officer

National Injury Insurance Scheme: Motor Vehicle Accidents

Consultation Regulation Impact Statement

Queenslanders with Disability Network Submission

Question 5: Do you agree with the description of the base case?

The Base Case neglects a significant issue for people acquiring a catastrophic injury in Queensland and Western Australia. The “safety net” that the NDIS will provide for people who are catastrophically injured who cannot access support under their state’s scheme, will not “catch” those over the age of 65, due to the eligibility rules of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Question 10: Do you agree with the identified impact of option 1 on people with catastrophic injuries?

It is vital that the system will provide support for all Australians who are catastrophically injured, regardless of fault, state of origin, or age. In order to achieve this outcome, Option 1 should be used. This will require reform for some states (particularly Queensland and Western Australia) but this is required to make a fair system for all Australians.

QDN also supports Option 1 as it provides the opportunity for earlier intervention, and the provision of medical and rehabilitation costs, which are unavailable under the NDIS. This is a very important distinction that will have direct impact on the rehabilitation outcomes of the individuals. The outcome of the catastrophically injured individual should remain at the centre of all system reform.

General Comments

People with disability, and indeed all Australians, are tired of systems that dictate random outcomes on the basis of state jurisdiction laws. With all the progress that has been made in the development of the NDIS, it would seem a retrograde step to not include people who are catastrophically injured in a fair national system.