

MEDIA RELEASE
30 May 2016

Parliamentary Inquiry into Abuse in Disability Services – Final Report

The Victorian Disability Services Commissioner welcomes the Final Report of the Parliamentary Inquiry into Abuse in Disability Services.

“One of the true measures of community is the degree to which it protects the most vulnerable people within that community.

Whilst noting some of the strengths of the disability sector, the Parliamentary Inquiry has highlighted a number of areas within the Victorian disability sector that can be improved to further strengthen the safeguards for people with a disability.”

The Commissioner, Laurie Harkin AM, acknowledges the Inquiry’s recognition of the role of his office in dealing with complaints about disability services but also expresses strong support for the recommendations made in the report aimed at strengthening mechanisms to prevent and respond to the abuse of people with a disability.

“If we are to collectively make the most of the potential benefits of the National Disability Insurance Scheme, our first priority must be the well-being and safety of people with a disability. The findings of this report represent an important opportunity to learn from the past and to contribute meaningfully to future safeguarding arrangements for people with a disability throughout Victoria and Australia.

The Commissioner looks forward to working with the Government and broader sector to maximise the benefits to people with a disability as a result of the work undertaken by the Parliamentary Inquiry.

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