

Communiqué

7 June 2022

The 7 June 2022 meeting of the Disability Council NSW continued to progress the development of a Plan, to drive progress in five key areas:

- Accessible communities
- Ensuring the voice of people with disabilities is heard
- Employment
- Justice and rights
- Housing.

A number of guest speakers attended the meeting, including representatives of:

- the Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services, who updated the Council on the Disability Inclusion Amendment Bill 2022, and advised that free Rapid Antigen Tests will be made available through 214 neighbourhood centres. Information about the initiative is available on the DCJ website.
- Regional NSW, who advised the Council on the Regional Events Activation Fund, which provides an opportunity to further embed accessibility and universal design, and on continuing work with local councils and NGOs to enhance accessibility, including funding for adult change facilities in regional areas.
- the Department of Customer Service, who provided an overview of the work being done under the Accessibility NSW Digital Restart Fund, which enhances digital accessibility in NSW government departments, and initiatives to promote the employment of people with disability, including the Department's Care and Belonging Strategy.

Council members continue to share information and advice via a range of committees, and report on these activities at Council meetings. At the June Council meeting, we heard back from members representing us at:

- Transport for NSW's Accessible Transport Advisory Committee
- The Department of Education's Disability Strategy Reference Group
- The Disability COVID Communities of Practice
- DEN Connect, which represents disability employee networks across the NSW public sector
- The Australian Network for Universal Housing Design Committee

The Council will next meet in September 2022.

Jane Spring, Chair
Dr Jill Duncan, Deputy Chair
Disability Council NSW