

Further to my appearance before the Committee on 29 December 2010, I wish to advise that I have not been able to locate a publicly available list of Victorian disability service providers who provide assistance with planning.

The Planning Policy and Implementation Guide

http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/152683/dsapp_planningpolicy_implementationguide_20071128.pdf states:

Planning Policy and Implementation Guide

Providers of assistance with planning

It is expected that assistance with planning will be provided by a disability service provider with:

- Planning and case management support as one of their core functions and
- The expertise to develop informal, generic and disability specific responses and;
- Knowledge or experience in a specific disability area (where required).

Disability Partnerships and Service Planning in each region must develop a list of agencies in their region that meet the criteria and can therefore provide assistance with planning.

DPASP should ensure that:

All disability service providers in the region are aware of to which CSO's referrals for assistance with planning can be made

- Disability service providers who are responsible for providing assistance with planning are supported to understand their role and ensure that they provide assistance with planning where required.

I respectfully suggest to the Committee that contact be made with the Victorian Department of Human Services Disability Services Division to request the Committee be provided with the information re who in Victoria is funded to provide assistance with planning.

I take this opportunity to highlight for the Committee the barriers which confront people and families in particular in accessing information about "who does what". Edicts are issued from a Central Office to regions and from the regions to service providers. There is no sense that this information should be publicly available so that families may go directly to a source of assistance.

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