

31 January 2013

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Joint Taskforce
C/- The Department of Families, Housing,
Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
PO Box 7576
Canberra Business Centre
Canberra ACT 2606

Dear NDIS Joint Taskforce

Established in October 2000, Vision 2020 Australia is part of VISION 2020: *The Right to Sight*, a global initiative of the World Health Organisation and the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness.

As a peak organisation for the eye health and vision care sector, Vision 2020 Australia represents over 60 member organisations involved in local and global eye care, health promotion, low vision support, vision rehabilitation, eye research, professional assistance and community support.

Vision 2020 Australia has been active in participating in the NDIS consultation process and most recently submitted a sector response to the draft NDIS legislation.

With respect to the *Regulation Impact Statement*, of the four options proposed, Vision 2020 Australia and members of the Low Vision and Rehabilitation Committee support the **third option, 'Choice limited only in higher risk circumstances.'**

This option is preferred because it facilitates greater choice for people with disability compared to options one and two. Cognisant with the Council of Australian Government's (COAG) acknowledgement that it closely resembles the model proposed by the Productivity Commission, this option promotes competition, while regulating higher risk services.

Further, it is consistent with member submissions which call for higher standards imposed for specialist services with appropriate protections for individuals.

Option three is preferred because option one maintains the status quo and restricts the level of choice afforded to individuals, while this limitation is only slightly ameliorated under option two. While option four represents full unregulated competition and least cost to government, it represents maximum risk for individuals and current service providers.

This overarching letter is representative of sector support for Option three. Detailed information on current and anticipated service arrangements, however, will be covered in accompanying individual member responses.

We, the members of Vision 2020 Australia's Low Vision and Rehabilitation Committee thank the NDIS Joint Taskforce for the opportunity to respond to the *Regulation Impact Statement* and look forward to the outcomes of the consultation process.

Yours sincerely



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Chief Executive Officer
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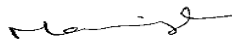
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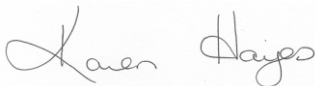
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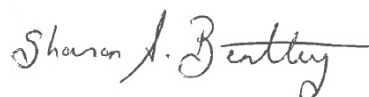
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