

MEDIA RELEASE – 11 August 2011

Productivity Commission ignores women with disabilities again



Photo taken at: Women with Disabilities Victoria's 'Disabili-Tea' held last week (2 August), to raise awareness and support for the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

Executive Director, Keran Howe said today “NDIS will not be effective unless it addresses the specific needs of women with disabilities. We know that all the evidence tells us women with disabilities are the most disadvantaged group in society but once again women with disabilities are invisible in the Productivity Commission’s report. As the report stands a mother with a disability will not receive help to bath or feed her children”.

Women with Disabilities Victoria welcomes the government’s commitment to the National Disability Insurance Scheme as critically important to improving the current desperate state of disability services in Australia. Nonetheless Co-Chair of Women with Disabilities Victoria Wendy Brooks says “the next stage of the NDIS must place greater emphasis on recognizing and responding to abuse and violence of people with disabilities; improving services that support women with a disability in their role as parents, and; ensuring women’s reproductive and sexual health through appropriate services”.

Women with Disabilities Victoria will continue to work to support the NDIS’s implementation and to ensure that people with disabilities are at the centre of the NDIS. It will also be watching the implementation closely to make sure women with disabilities don’t miss out again.

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