



**Minister for Environment; Disability Services
Deputy Leader of the Legislative Council**

Our ref 62-06874

Mr Bob Buckley
A4 Convenor
convenor@a4.org.au

Dear Mr Buckley

Thank you for your email received in this office on 13 March 2018, forwarding your correspondence to the Hon Dan Tehan, Minister for Social Services, and Mr Rob De Luca, Chief Executive Officer of the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), regarding engagement undertaken by the NDIA with people who have Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

It is disappointing to hear you have found NDIA's efforts to engage and collaborate with individuals with ASD less than satisfactory. I note you have offered to continue to engage in discussion with NDIA despite your frustration and I commend Autism Aspergers Advocacy Australia for their ongoing pursuit of better options for people with ASD. I trust the issues you have raised in your correspondence to Minister Tehan and Mr De Luca will be given due consideration.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is a once in a generation change, and one of the largest policy reforms in Australia's history. It is crucial that all levels of government continue to listen to the concerns of the disability community, particularly those with lived experience, in making the NDIS a success for all.

I continue to liaise with Minister Tehan regarding the transition to a nation-wide NDIS in WA and how it impacts people with disability in our State. In addition, through the Disability Reform Council, I will continue to advocate for the inclusion of people with disability at all levels of consultation and decision making.

Once again, I commend you for your ongoing advocacy for people with ASD and thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely

Hon Stephen Dawson MLC
MINISTER FOR DISABILITY SERVICES

17 APR 2018