



4 December 2012

Physical Disability Council of NSW
St Helens Community Centre
3/184 Glebe Point Road
GLEBE NSW 2037

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Physical Disability Council's Report – The Impact of Ageing on the needs of people with physical disability.

Although the findings within the report, which assess the impact of changes on people with a disability in relation to ageing since 2008, do not specifically address accessibility and interactions with police, the NSW Police Force is committed to interacting appropriately with all people with disability.

The NSW Police Force recognises that people with disability can experience systemic discrimination within society. The NSW Police Force Disability Action Plan (DAP) provides the framework for police to work within to ensure that people with disabilities are treated equitably, respectfully and in a non-discriminatory manner in their dealings with police. DAP cross references and works in conjunction with other NSW Police Force policies and procedures to ensure that disability issues are not considered in isolation and demonstrates the NSW Police Force's commitment to responding to diversity competently and meaningfully.

In addition to providing accessible and equitable services to people with disability, the NSW Police Force works in partnership with NSW Government agencies, non- government organisations and community groups to consult with people with disabilities and to seek advice on relevant issues. The NSW Police Force Disability Advisory Council (DAC) is the key mechanism by which the NSW Police Force consults with community members on disability issues and receives advice from DAC members to inform NSW Police Force approaches and priorities on criminal justice and law enforcement matters for people with disability.

Further information on the NSW Police Force Disability Action Plan and NSW Police Force Disability Council is publicly available on the NSW Police Force website

http://www.police.nsw.gov.au/community_issues/disabilities

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Heysmand'.

Matthew Heysmand
A/Detective Superintendent
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