



A win for disability advocacy with funding certainty in the 2020 Budget

After more than 3 years of campaigning, the 2020 budget provided much needed security for the NSW disability advocacy sector with a commitment to \$13 million per annum over the next three years to fund a stronger, more robust advocacy sector, alongside of other inclusion funding.

Serena Ovens, CEO of the Physical Disability Council of NSW (PDCN) said the budget announcement is a welcome relief, with current funding set to cease in June 2021.

“This funding will allow PDCN to continue to promote, protect and advance the rights and inclusion of our members, and all people living with physical disability in NSW. It will guarantee they have continued access to services and supports to empower them to be fully included members of the community, or to assist in life threatening cases of abuse and discrimination.”

“Until people with physical disability can access every building, catch any form of public transport, be equally included in the workplace and fully and equitably included in all parts of NSW society, we’ve still got work to do,” Ms Ovens said.

PDCN gratefully acknowledges the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services, The Hon. Mr. Gareth Ward, for ‘going into bat’ for these vital supports for people with disability in what was always going to be a difficult budget given such unprecedented times.

“This will be a great relief to the 1.37 million people with disability in NSW who have campaigned tirelessly alongside PDCN and the NSW Disability Advocacy Alliance for this much needed funding security.”

We look forward to working with the Minister and his Department through the implementation of the new Disability Advocacy Futures Program, in line with the recommendations of the NSW Ageing and Disability Commissioner’s review, to build empowered, inclusive communities for people with physical disability across NSW.

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The Physical Disability Council of NSW (PDCN) is the peak representative organisation of, and for, people with physical disability across New South Wales. PDCN is a not-for-profit, non-government organisation.

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