



CHRIS BOURKE MLA

Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs
Minister for Children and Young People
Minister for Disability
Minister for Small Business and the Arts
Minister for Veterans and Seniors

Member for Ginninderra

Ms Vanessa Fanning
8 Durville Crescent
GRIFFITH ACT 2603

Dear Ms Fanning

Thank you for your letter of 7 January 2016, to the former Minister for Disability, in relation to your request to be considered for eligibility to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). I apologise for the delay in issuing this reply.

I understand the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) has advised that, as you made contact after the age of 65 years of age, your eligibility for the NDIS cannot be considered. Having privately funded the services you required you were not connected to the government funded organisations that would have referred your details to the NDIS.

The ESO was a grant round which sought to raise awareness prior to the introduction of the NDIS and to provide people in priority need with some additional supports. While the process assisted people to begin planning, and collecting information, for their NDIS application, the Community Service Directorate (CSD) which managed the Enhanced Service Offer (ESO) could not forward applicant information to the NDIA. CSD apologises for any confusion.

Having said that, I am concerned about your situation and it is one which may be repeated as the NDIS rolls out nationally. The NDIS is a systemic reform of almost unprecedented implication and through its development and introduction misunderstandings and errors of omission and application are inevitable and must be learnt from. That is why the NDIS was introduced as a trial. In this vein I spoke to The Hon. Christian Porter MP Minister for Social Services, who is the Federal Minister responsible for the NDIS, about your matter and asked him to consider your access request on its merits. I will also write to the Hon. Christian Porter raising the matter and will ask CSD to keep me informed of your situation

Yours sincerely

Chris Bourke MLA
29 March 2016

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