

Consultation with families, carers, staff and providers

Summary of Nucleus Group Report



Nucleus Group conducted 32 workshops across Victoria which were attended by 252 people. The following findings reflect feedback and key themes from those workshops.

AGREEMENTS

Attendees supported retaining the current level of protection for residents and better aligning agreements with the Residential Tenancies Act 1997 (RTA).

Attendees suggested that agreements should contain the same basic terms for all residents, with provisions to individualise where required.

HOUSEMATES

Most attendees felt that residents should have the right to choose who they live with. A common proposal was that affected parties collaborate to choose a new housemate.

ACCESSING THE HOUSE AND ROOM

Attendees supported adopting RTA provisions to regulate landlord access to the property and to retain current provisions from the Disability Act 2006 concerning service provider access to rooms.

MONEY MANAGEMENT

Most attendees proposed that households should manage their own expenses with support from SIL providers.

RENT

Attendees felt that current provisions for changes in rent under the Disability Act were reasonable.

MODIFYING THE HOUSE

Most attendees supported notice periods for all planned modifications of between 1 and 3 months, including providing notice of methods to address the impact of the build on residents.

REPAIRING DAMAGES

Most attendees supported retaining current Disability Act provisions around damage, where people who “knowingly and intentionally” cause damage contribute to repair costs.



NOTICE TO VACATE

Most attendees supported limiting the SDA provider's ability to provide notice to vacate. Attendees suggested some reasons for the landlord to be able to give notice, such as when safety of others is at risk or when rent is outstanding.

TEMPORARY RELOCATION

Most attendees supported retaining the current temporary relocation regulations in the Disability Act.

In the case of temporary relocation being required, attendees proposed that SDA providers should be responsible for finding and paying for suitable alternative accommodation.

HOUSE MANAGEMENT

Most attendees felt that residents should be allowed to establish their own house rules with support from families, advocates and SIL providers.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Attendees supported a mandated, tiered resolution process, building on existing mechanisms. For example, an internal complaints process with options for independent mediation and recourse to the Victorian Civil Administrative Tribunal.

You can find alternative formats of this document and more information about this review at our website:

www.engage.vic.gov.au/sda

