

# Consultation with SDA residents

## Summary of the Victorian Advocacy League for Individuals with Disability (VALID) report



VALID facilitated 10 consultation sessions with 51 people currently living in shared Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA). Residents from both Government-operated and non-Government-operated SDA were consulted across Victoria.

### AGREEMENTS

Attendees proposed that future regulation emphasise the communication of any agreement in an accessible format that the person can understand.

### HOUSEMATES

Attendees supported more choice in housemate selection.

### ACCESSING THE HOUSE AND ROOM

Attendees supported the current Disability Act regulations regarding access to the house or room, and asked that permission be formally requested in writing except in emergencies.

### PAYING RENT AND MONEY MANAGEMENT

Attendees proposed establishing clearer responsibilities for rent-setting, given the confusion in some homes regarding who was responsible for rent-related matters.

Attendees also suggested a clearer complaints mechanism for rent-related matters.

### REPAIRING DAMAGES

Attendees proposed that residents should only pay for intentional damage, and all other damages should be covered by the landlord.

### NOTICE TO VACATE AND TEMPORARY RELOCATION

Attendees supported continuing the current notice to vacate protections in the Disability Act.

Attendees suggested that landlords should be responsible for the cost of temporary relocation.

### HOUSE MANAGEMENT

Attendees proposed that residents should decide house rules.



## LEGISLATION

Attendees did not express a strong preference for a legislative mechanism, rather they supported the maintenance and protection of their current rights.

## OTHER ISSUES

Attendees supported the separation of housing and supports, and identified this as an opportunity to help them stay in their home while allowing them to modify supports to their changing needs.

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[www.engage.vic.gov.au/sda](http://www.engage.vic.gov.au/sda)

