



Delia Lawrie

MINISTER FOR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES



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MAXIMISING THE TERRITORY'S ABILITY IN DISABILITY SERVICES

Disability Services in the Territory will get its first independent comprehensive review Minister for Family and Community Services Delia Lawrie announced today.

“A tender is being advertised 22 December to help us map the future of Disability Services in the Territory,” said Ms Lawrie.

“Although various elements of specific disability services or parts of the system have been looked at in the past, this is aimed at seeing the big picture.

“We’re not looking at a needs assessment or a shopping list, or an ad hoc snap shot, but a complete picture of how services and systems fit together and where they don’t, with clear recommendations on where the system can be reformed, and where we need to invest to get the greatest gains for people living with disabilities and their carers.”

The tender calls for a specialist with extensive knowledge and expertise in human services delivery and or social policy. The review is expected to take 6-9 months.

“This comprehensive approach will not stop current initiatives such as the reform of the Taxi Subsidy Scheme,” said Ms Lawrie.

“But we do need to have a complete understanding of where we are now, and what we can learn from other jurisdictions both here and overseas.

“The review and its terms of reference have been endorsed by the Disability Advisory Council

“Furthermore, the review will directly involve people living with disabilities, carers, service providers and advocacy groups across the Territory.

“This is an important step in providing and enhancing high quality, equitable services to promote the health, independence and well being of people of all ages living with disabilities across the Northern Territory.”

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