

# Revision of the National Standards for Disability Services

## Bulletin: May 2011 Easy Read

### Consultation on the National Standards

From May to June 2010 the government talked with over 1,200 people across Australia about the National Standards for Disability Services (National Standards). There were more people with a disability who had a say than any other group.

People in Queensland were asked questions about what was good in the National Standards and what could be better.

Some questions were about words and ideas used in the National Standards. Other questions were about how to make sure that the National Standards do a good job for people with a disability and their family members.

Thank you to everyone who had a say. Your ideas and opinions are important, and will help the government to make the National Standards better.

### What we learned

We learned it is important for your service to:

- be safe, so that you don't get hurt or treated badly.
- listen to the things you need for your religion or culture.
- work with your family to help get the right things for you.

We also learned that:

- People with a disability and family members only know a little bit about the National Standards, but staff, service providers and other people with jobs about disability know more.
- The old words and hard words in the National Standards should be changed or explained.
- The main reason for having National Standards is so that people with a disability can have a good life and get what they want, need and should have.
- There should be more training and help to find out about and use the National Standards.
- Ideas about the best ways to use the National Standards for different people and different services should be written down.

A report on the National Standards was written about what we learned. An easy read version of the report and fact sheets in community languages will be available in June 2011 from the Disability Sector Quality System website at [www.communities.qld.gov.au/disability/key-projects/disability-sector-quality-system/current-developments/revised-national-standards-for-disability-services](http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/disability/key-projects/disability-sector-quality-system/current-developments/revised-national-standards-for-disability-services)

### **What happens next?**

The National Standards will be rewritten from July 2011 to make them better. We will continue talking to you to make sure the National Standards are about what is important to you.

### **Where can I go for more information?**

You can find out more about the National Standards on the internet at

[www.dhs.vic.gov.au/disability/national-quality-framework](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/disability/national-quality-framework) and at the Disability Sector Quality System website at [www.communities.qld.gov.au/disability/key-projects/disability-sector-quality-system/current-developments/revised-national-standards-for-disability-services](http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/disability/key-projects/disability-sector-quality-system/current-developments/revised-national-standards-for-disability-services)

You can also find out more about improving the National Standards in Queensland by contacting the Principal Project Officer on 07 38360531.