

Communiqué

6 February 2023

The first formal meeting of the Disability Council NSW for 2023 was held on Monday 6 February. The meeting was chaired by Jane Spring.

The Council welcomed a number of guest speakers, including:

- Kim Samuel, Churchill Fellowship Recipient
- Justine O'Neill, CEO, and Ben Alexander, Inclusion Project Worker, Council for Intellectual Disability
- The Hon. Natasha Maclaren-Jones, NSW Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services.

Issues discussed included:

- the overrepresentation of people with disability experiencing homelessness and the importance of accessible, well located housing
- innovative housing models for people with disability in the US, including the Kelsey and Burning Man initiatives
- the importance of equitable access to information, employment and public transport for people with intellectual disability
- how best to engage with young people with disability
- how to ensure greater representation of people with disability on boards.

The Council's priorities for 2023, as outlined in the Disability Council Plan 2022-2024, are:

- Accessible communities
- Ensuring the voice of people with disabilities is heard
- Employment
- Justice and rights
- Housing.

Council members continue to advocate for people with disability through participation on a wide range of committees and involvement in key forums and events at both a state and national level.

The Council will next meet on 1 May 2023.

Jane Spring
Chair, Disability Council NSW

Associate Professor Jill Duncan
Deputy Chair, Disability Council NSW