

HOPES Quarterly

Update



October 2004

HOPES (Housing Options Providing Extra Support) is committed to the development of:

- ◇ Appropriate accommodation
- ◇ Adequate support
- ◇ Suitable lifestyle options

for people with acquired disabilities or neurological conditions

For Your Diary

Disability Lobby Group

Next HOPES

Meeting

AGM

Friday 15th October

12.30 pm

TASCARE,

Main Rd.

Derwent Park.

* * *

To be followed by a
Disability Lobby
Group meeting
"Advice from
Experts"
All welcome

By the time you read this, Australia's Federal Election will be over.

However, regardless of the outcome, major disability issues will continue and most will be a state responsibility.

Although HOPES' specific interest lies in accommodation, we see the need for disability groups to work together to create a sufficient force to put pressure on state government to plan and resource disability needs, including supported accommodation.

With this in mind, we joined forces with member organisations TASCARE and BIAT to plan a disability lobby group forum – held on – from which a steering committee was formed to prioritise the issues and draft a way forward.

The first meeting of the steering committee was held on 17th September, and those present agreed that the priorities issues identified from the forum were:

- Appropriately supported accommodation and respite
- Lack of overall planning for disability services

Concerns were also expressed about inadequate day options, and the lack of transparency in funding.

Although groups generally received a sympathetic ear from the bureaucrats they seemed unable to apply the necessary pressure to treasury.

After some discussion, the meeting agreed to:

1. Develop a wider database of people and organisations involved with disability (from existing databases held by various organisations).
2. Invite supportive ex-politicians to a meeting to discuss positive strategies.
3. Attempt to set up a meeting with treasury.
4. Prepare a presentation for the Legislative Council.
5. Encourage all people with disabilities to register with Disability Services.
6. Prepare a presentation pack, including issues, statistics, and possible solutions.

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HOPES Annual General Meeting

HOPES annual general meeting will be held on Friday 15th October at TASCARE (opposite the Carlyle Hotel, Derwent Park) commencing at 12.30 p.m.

We are seeking new committee members and would encourage all those interested to nominate (either nominate yourself or a colleague). Background information and nomination form attached. Nominees must be financial members, and nominations need to reach the committee prior to the meeting – but membership and nomination can both be completed on the day.

If you would like to know about what is involved before nominating, please contact one of the current committee members listed below:

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Sue Hodgson | 0418 146 932 | David Pearce | 6273 1150 |
| Barry Titmus | 6229 6309 | Eliza White | 0409 721 345 |
| Mary Langdon | 0416001246 | Geraldine Harwood | 0418 124 185 |
| Deborah Byrne | 6278 7299 | James Goodrick | |
| Gina Juhasz | 6259 7194 | Patrick Eadington | 6228 3581 |
| Caroline L'Hoste | 6229 7804 | | |

Rosny Village Project

The Rosny Village project described in the last Update is progressing, albeit very slowly. Land will not be released until the final slip road plans are completed, and Gordons Hill Road residents are still protesting about this. However, the interested parties recently met with a representative of the Department of Infrastructure Energy and Resources, a representative from Clarence Council, and architects Ray Heffernan and Michael Brelis on site, and all are confident that the road will not interfere with our project.

The architects Heffernan Button Voss are currently preparing a concept plan for the whole area, based on the stated needs of our four interested groups – HOPES, Southern Cohousing, Association of Christian Homes, and ABC Childcare Centre. When the concept plan is complete we hope to include it in a promotional CD-ROM being prepared for us by James Goodrick and his Job Futures team. This will also include interview segments from the video, currently being reworked by Practical Productions.

Land costs and an accurate time frame are not known at this stage,

State Inquiry into the needs of young people with neurological disorders and acquired disabilities

Following written submissions, this committee has now held hearings in the north of the state, paid visits to Victoria and Western Australia to check on innovative models of disability support, and is currently following up on submissions from the south, before completing its report.

Hopefully, its recommendations will support our statements and put pressure on the government to proactively address and adequately resource the unmet need which has been identified for several years.

The HOPES submission will be available at the AGM and, if you have additional comments to make please let us know then, so they can be included in our presentation on 19th October.