**How to Phone / Email and Meet with your local Member of Parliament (MP):**

We are asking you to contact your State Member of Parliament (MP) because the State Government is removing all funding from disability advocacy services in NSW.

We need more MPs to understand this important issue if we are going to stop the NSW Government from closing down our important disability advocacy services.

**1. Find out who your local State MP is:**

**Which electorate are you in?**

If you don’t know which electorate you are in you can go to <http://streetlist.elections.nsw.gov.au/> and type in your suburb or postcode. Then to find the name of your MP click on View District Profile.

**What are the contact details for your local State MP?**

You can find your [Local State MPs contact details here](http://standbyme.org.au/StateMPContactlist.pdf).

**2. Phone/email your local MP:**

**1. Don’t forget when you phone/email your MP to be polite.**

**2. Explain why you are phoning/emailing:**
“I am calling because I am concerned about the loss of funding for disability advocacy services in NSW ……

“I would like to speak to (MP’s name) about (local disability advocacy/information service) which the Government wants to shut down.

**3. Tell your MP what you would like them to do:**
“I would like you to personally commit to supporting the on-going funding of all disability advocacy services in NSW …..

“I would like you to speak to the Premier about the important work that disability advocacy services do in your local area and the need to continue to fund these services into the future……

**4. What will be your follow up request?**

Here are some requests you can make of your MP:

* I would like you to talk to other members of your political party about taking action on this important issue…
* I would like you to write a letter to the Premier about the important work that disability advocacy services do and the need to continue to fund these services into the future.
* I would like you to do a post on Facebook or a tweet about saving disability services in NSW..
* I would like you to make a speech in Parliament about the importance of saving disability advocacy services in NSW…
* I would like you to ask Questions on Notice to the Premier on the threatened loss of disability services in NSW …

**5. Thank the MP for their attention to this important issue.**

**3. Go and meet with your local MP:**

**1. Write a letter to your local MP**

**Ask to meet with them to speak about the loss of funding for disability services in NSW.**

**Tell your MP in your letter who you will be bringing to the meeting.**

**2. Wait 48 hours then phone your MPs’ office and ask if they have received your letter and when a meeting can be arranged.**

**3. Once the meeting is arranged:**

**Send the MP the MP Briefing paper about a week before the meeting**

**Tell the MP who will be coming with you to the meeting.**

**4. At the meeting:**

* **Introduce everyone**
* **Have someone lead the meeting with others contributing agreed parts of the meeting. Have someone take notes.**
* **Explain why you have come / What the issue is / What you want the MP to do.**
* **Make requests of the MP (speech, write to the Premier etc)**

**5. Agree on a follow up to the meeting**

* **The MP will email you / write you a letter outlining what they have done following your meeting**
* **You will phone the office to ask what the MP has done following the meeting.**

**6. Email/Write to the MP thanking them for the meeting and outlining what the MP agreed to do (with a timeline).**

**7. Let us know how the meeting went**

**Tell us on social media or email us on admin@standbyme.org.au and**

**Fill in our survey – located here** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YLPN323>

**Twitter @StandByMeNSW**

**Facebook** [StandByMeNSW](https://www.facebook.com/StandByMeNSW/)