



NSW Disability Advocacy Alliance

Media Release

Friday May 17, 2019.

## **City of Sydney Council Unanimously Support Notice of Motion in Support of 'Stand By Me' Campaign**

On Monday night Councillor Jess Miller moved a Notice of Motion to the City of Sydney Council supporting the NSW Disability Advocacy Alliance 'Stand By Me' campaign in calling for the NSW government to provide continued funding for independent disability advocacy, information and peak representation post June 2020.

"I am delighted to say it was passed unanimously by my fellow Councillors," said Cr Miller. "Ensuring that all kinds of people have the opportunity to be seen, fully participate and engage in our communities is of critical importance to Council, so too are advocacy groups whom work alongside us to make this happen."

Serena Ovens, spokesperson for the Disability Advocacy Alliance and Executive Officer of the Physical Disability Council NSW stated that the support of the City of Sydney Council provides strong recognition of the importance of the campaign.

"One in five people in NSW have a disability - this isn't a niche issue that our politicians can ignore, said Ms. Ovens. "The NSW Government's planned cuts to disability advocacy funding will force many advocacy services to close their doors from June 2020, leaving people with disability - particularly the 90 per cent of people in NSW not eligible for the NDIS - with little to no access to any support or a voice when things go wrong, and a champion in our corner ensuring we get a fair go."

Councillor Miller advised that "the Lord Mayor will now write to the Premier Berejiklian and the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services, Gareth Ward, asking them to guarantee secure and permanent funding for independent disability advocacy, information and peak representative organisations in NSW".

The City stands with people with disability and their families in supporting the NSW Disability Advocacy Alliance's call for secure, permanent funding for independent disability advocacy, information and peak representative organisations in NSW."

### **For more information please contact:**

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(Photos attached)