

To: Anne Campbell

Deputy Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice

Cc: Anthony Shannon

Director Early Intervention & Inclusion, Early Intervention, Disability & Inclusion, Strategy, Policy & Commissioning

The Role of TEI Peaks in Recommissioning

Dear Anne,

Given the announcement that all TEI services will be subject to a 6-month extension until 31 December 2025 due to pending Foundational Support negotiations, we (the undersigned peaks) wish to reiterate the importance of DCJ working closely with us and the sector to shape the future of TEI in the new context.

We wish to express our concern that leading to this point, we feel that the TEI Recommissioning Process has not utilised the TEI Central Council to its full potential. The TEI Central Council was established “ to act as a state-wide consultative body to share sector knowledge and expertise, provide strategic advice and problem solve, to better inform the recommissioning of TEI and FCS services across the DCJ Districts and the entire state.”

Introducing Foundational Supports as a key driver for TEI related decision making adds a level of complexity to the process which was not previously known or foreseen. This could be interpreted as a 'shift of the goal posts' which may or may not result in an enhancement of TEI overall.

The announcement last week stopped short of acknowledging this change in process and the potential implications for the sector. We strongly recommend that in the future key changes and communications are discussed with the TEI Central Council before they go out to the sector.

There are still many unknowns and we anticipate an increase in questions from our constituents that we will not be able to answer. We acknowledge that Foundational Support negotiations are still ongoing, however the role of peak bodies in holding the space between the sector and government, is essential for the development of sound social policy and for achieving the best possible outcomes for the sector, but we need to be well equipped to fulfill that task.

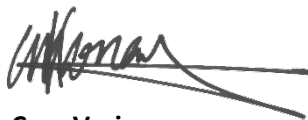
We wish to highlight, as history has shown, that one rollover can easily result in another and another, which is not a healthy cycle to get into. It's disruptive and anything but good for job security let alone for better outcomes for vulnerable communities.

We remain committed to working in collaboration with the Minister's Office and DCJ. We request a reemphasis on the TEI Central Council's role in the next phase of TEI Recommissioning.

Yours faithfully,



Can Yaşmut
LCSA Executive Officer



Cara Varian
NCOSS Chief Executive Officer



Susan Watson
Fams Chief Executive Officer