## NDS LogoStandard 1 policy template

## Choice and control policy

**Policy statement**

**[organisation]** promotes and protects individual rights including freedom of expression, self-determination and decision-making.

This policy supports **[organisation]** to apply the National Standards for Disability Services, in particular Standard 1: Rights. This policy guides staff to support people to exercise their rights and have choice and control over their services.

**Scope**

This policy applies to all staff including permanent and casual, contract workers, temporary agency workers, and volunteers. This policy is owned by the Board.

**Principles**

* **[organisation]** respects the rights of people with disability in exercising choice and control about matters that affect them.
* Collaboration and consultation with people with disability (and other key stakeholders where appropriate) promotes and ensures active choice and control in relation to the services.
* All people with disability are assumed to have capacity to make decisions, exercise choice, and provide informed consent regardless of their disability.
* People are supported to develop their capacity to make independent decisions.
* Timely information is provided in appropriate formats to support informed decision making including people’s rights and responsibilities.
* Choice includes smaller decisions about everyday living through to more complex consultation on co-design of service.
* **[organisation]** supports people with disability in a way that is appropriate to their circumstances and cultural needs so as to maximise people’s opportunities to make choices and have control over decisions that affect their lives.
* **[organisation]** recognises the role of family, carers and advocates in representing people’s interests and promoting choice and control in the planning and delivery of supports.

**Definitions**

**Dignity of risk** – autonomy and self-determination used by a person when making decisions, including the choice to take some risks in life.

**Informed consent** – voluntary agreement and willing acceptance of a proposition and following action where the person making the decision has appropriate information and capacity to make the decision free or fear or influence.

**Relevant legislation and policy**

* Carers Recognition Act 2004 (WA)
* Disability Discrimination Act 1992
* Disability Services Act 1993 (WA)
* Equal Opportunity Act 1984 (WA)
* Occupational Health and Safety Act 1984 (WA)
* Universal Declaration of Human Rights
* United Nations Convention on The Rights of Persons with Disabilities
* National Standards for Disability Services
* National Disability Insurance Scheme 2013: Principles
* National Disability Insurance Scheme Quality and Safeguarding Framework

**Approvals**

Date of approval: **[insert date]**

Date of review: **[insert date]**

Signature of CEO: **[insert signature]**