

Guiding principles

The implementation of *my future my choice* will be underpinned by a number of important principles. These are:

- **Participation in the initiative is based on choice** – a person can choose to ‘opt in’ or ‘opt out’ if they meet the criteria for eligibility and priority. This means that a person who doesn’t want to be involved initially can request to participate later. Participation will not commit someone to changing their current arrangements unless that is what they choose.
- At all stages, **the person with a disability will be central to decision making** about their future support and care arrangements. It is expected that in many instances, people will want to involve family members, friends or carers in the decision making. It is the person’s choice as to who is involved.
- **A holistic and comprehensive approach will be taken to assessing a person’s needs and aspirations**, and will consider support, healthcare and accommodation needs alongside other important lifestyle factors.
- **Support/advocacy will be available** to facilitate and support a person to participate in the planning and assessment process.
- **Information provided will be clear and in an accessible format.**
- **Privacy and confidentiality** will be respected.
- An **independent complaints process** will be established for people participating in the initiative.
- Implementation and new service development will take place in accordance with **relevant legislation and disability standards**.
- The initiative will build on and **strengthen existing support networks and service options** and work towards achieving a more responsive and sustainable service system for younger people with disabilities who require alternatives to residential aged care.