

Choice and Control Policy

Policy

Out Doors Inc. (Out Doors) promotes and protects individual rights including freedom of expression, self-determination and decision-making.

This policy supports Out Doors 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 Council.

Principles

- Out Doors respects the rights of people in exercising choice and control about matters that affect them.
- Collaboration and consultation with people with mental health issues and other disabilities (and other key stakeholders where appropriate) promotes and ensures active choice and control in relation to the services.
- All people with mental health issues and other disabilities are assumed to have capacity to make decisions, exercise choice, and provide informed consent regardless of their mental and physical health.
- 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.
- Out Doors supports people with mental health issues and other disabilities 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.
- Out Doors 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

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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 of fear or influence.

Relevant legislation and policy

- Mental Health Act 2014
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- National Standards for Disability Services
- National Disability Insurance Scheme 2013: Principles
- National Disability Insurance Scheme Quality and Safeguarding Framework

History

Date	Version	Reason for revision
October 2020	1.0	Issue version