

Submission
No 383

INQUIRY INTO PRIVATISATION OF BUS SERVICES

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 8 February 2022

Partially
Confidential

I am a physically disabled woman who likes to keep my independence as much as possible. I used to be able to get myself to my GP myself by catching 2 buses but as the 400 bus has been removed, it is too far for me to walk from the drop off point of the new bus to get to my doctor. I now have to rely on an NDIS carer to take me to and from the doctor.

As above with shopping for small top up items too. I can no longer access the community with as little walking as possible so for me to collect a few top up items from the supermarket, it now costs the tax payer over \$100 for my carer to take me to the supermarket.

One day a fortnight I had a social outing to the Hillsdale bowling club. I used to catch 2 buses to get there and then a short walk from the 2nd bus stop but as the bus routes has changed, it now takes 3 buses to get there. So if I want a social outing, it now costs the tax payer over \$300 for an NDIS carer to take me there and back.

Once a month I like to see a medical professional at Martin Place but as my local bus now only goes to Central and then I would have to change on to the light rail, it is too hard for me to do alone so it is costing the tax payer \$200 to take me and to and from this appointment.

The cost to the tax payer is sad but I feel like life is not worth living due to losing so much of my independence. I have tried to keep my independence as much as possible but these bus cuts/changes have changed that. I am 48 years old and have to take a babysitter with me just to get top up grocery items!

My mental health is rapidly declining due to feeling so useless and not being able to do things for myself.

How many people have to die before the powers that be realise that these bus cuts/changes are very very very wrong?