

INQUIRY INTO AUSLAN INTERPRETATION FOR BROADCASTING

Organisation: Australian Deaf Elders Group

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The NSW inquiry into Auslan Interpretation for Broadcasting

July 2022

4th August 2022

Greetings from Australian Deaf Elders Group

Mrs Lorraine Mulley Administrator. I write to submit issues and resolutions addressing the "Terms of Reference (TOR) as a Deaf Auslan user and representative of over 874 Over 65 Auslan users Australia wide (CENSUS 2016)

I have always wanted to participate in the NSW political arena. In particular the NSW Legislative Council and all NSW Parliamentary Sittings with an Auslan interpreter translating "Question Time. "

Captions are not sufficient to fully receive the dialogue of the Sittings. It's like saying do you want " free" the context in Auslan is completely different for the word than English and has many different signs for the meaning as in Italian or Spanish and can completely misinterpret the discourse presented.

I require an Auslan Interpreter to access not just words but full discourse of the Question Time as my example but not limited to.

When Auslan is used to address the people or address the Parliament in any setting I can participate in decision making processes that I am asked to respond equally to hearing people, to as an Australian Constituent.

Therefore I really don't understand why it is not automatic decision to provide Auslan Interpretation.

I appeal to you that it would be absurd to provide televised transmissions of speakers with the sound switched off or not recorded on the live transmissions for hearing people to access and participate in the event via captions only, because it is an English format the hearing can participate in that's cheaper for the Government than sound recording as an example.

Just to further that point the Cinemas of many States do not provide captions on the screen of every movie session that they show a movie simply because " hearing people complain that spoken language is their preferred means of participation and they do not appreciate captions on the screen too confusing " . Movie cinemas toe the line and don't upset hearing customers yet expect Deaf to use a confusing language known as Red written English Captions on "Craptiview" (eye straining).

Every time there is no Auslan interpreter on transmissions I have to ask my family of the context of many statements because the English Captions are jumbled or not clear or WRONG.

In early Fire and Pandemic Covid transmissions before Auslan Interpreters were provided I knew very little of what the risks of harm were to me.

Prior to the Australian Government listening to Australian Deaf Elders our National Deaf Elders were frightened as we had no Auslan Interpreting Free for over 65s equal to under 65 Deaf people in NDIS who could pay for their own Auslan Interpreters since 2013.

Deaf Elders living alone were disadvantaged by English captions on the screen they do not fully understand, don't function clearly, are TOO FAST TO READ even for speed reading hearing people.

Auslan interpreter gives us full knowledge standing next to the speaker at any event.

This is a good outcome for Auslan constituents all constituents.

Australian Deaf Elders have written to the Government lobby for Auslan Interpreting so that Elders can use them to access correct information at any meeting event equal to NDIS people under 65 yet not in Parliament Broadcasts or Broadcasting.

Our lobby resulted in the clear understanding that it is discrimination to exclude the voices of constituents by not providing us access to Auslan equal to hearing constituents access via SPOKEN English. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/sign-language-milestone-for-senior-australians>

English is not the Language of Australia yet it is a "de facto language" of Australia its status as such has never been declared explicitly [Google.com.au/search?q=has+english+ever+been+formally+as+the+recognised+of+Australia](https://www.google.com.au/search?q=has+english+ever+been+formally+as+the+recognised+of+Australia)

Australian Deaf Elders provide this submission to suggest resolutions that a team of Auslan interpreters be contracted full time to the NSW Legislative Council. They can be employees of such and not be unreliable contractors from Private bodies who many interpreters do not work for as they are "Freelance contractors". Add them to your PR teams, hire them out to The Broadcasting Commission, opposition, any Broadcasting that constituents are targeted by Tax Payers taxes. Including over 65s whom worked all our lives and still until at least 67!

Australian Deaf Elders Admin Group per the author Lorraine Mulley wish to have submission on the internet.

Providing Auslan interpreters at legislative council proceedings is an accessible way to acquire information and knowledge about law that may affect me; it is critical that this is automatically provided, not be a should-we-shouldn't-we process.

Thank you for reading this.

Yours Sincerely,

Lorraine Mulley Per

The Australian Deaf Elders Group Admin