

Good afternoon Members,

I hope this email finds you well on this cloudy Wednesday afternoon.

As you are aware, DSWA has a Special General Meeting scheduled for 13 June at 6pm. To be held at the Nulsen Zenith Training Room at 32 Burton St, Cannington.

Please find attached

1. Agenda
2. Two Agenda Items
  - o Appointment of Auditor
  - o Review of Constitution
3. The Draft Constitution
4. Proxy Voting Form

If you wish to attend the meeting by Teams – here is the link. Please click the link and it will take you directly to the meeting on 13 June. [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Please remember that if you are attending by Teams you are not able to vote by Teams, but I have attached a proxy voting form for you should you require it.

With regard to the constitution, we have provide you with a Marked Up version of the Changes, with Notes from Nia Parker, Deputy Chair as to why the amendments are necessary.

As message from 'nia,

In 2016, the WA Government ratified a new Incorporations Act and allowed Associations 3 years to redraft their rules (Constitution) to reflect these changes. DSWA has yet to do so and as such has been non-compliant in a number of areas. (After 2019, the Model Rules applied to our organization, superseding our Constitution).

A small group has worked on making the necessary changes, with the bulk of the work being done by Lawyer, Sara Newton - a non Board member, who is a member of our Finance and Risk subcommittee. Sara has ensured that all the Model Rules have been incorporated into our Constitution and that the language is legally appropriate.

We have tried to make changes that reflect the current practice of DSWA, whilst allowing flexibility to grow the Association and adapt its practices.

The Association is first and foremost an entity to support its members and as our funding model has changed to less grant based, and more fee- for- service through the NDIS we need to ensure that we adhere to all the legalities required of us as this is one of many issues that we can, and are, audited on. Failure to pass audits may see our ability to provide support be severely impacted.

I am happy to discuss any concerns regarding the changes. All comments need to be received before June 7<sup>th</sup>.

'nia Parker  
Deputy Chair, DSWA

[Parap21@bigpond.com](mailto:Parap21@bigpond.com)

Should you have any other questions or need support with the Teams meeting, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Warmest regards  
Cassandra

Cassandra Hughes  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
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The complex block features a logo for Down Syndrome Western Australia on the left, with the tagline 'Supporting a Life of Possibilities' in a cursive font. Below the logo is contact information including a phone number, address, website, and a call to action to sign up for a newsletter and join social media. At the bottom left are icons for Facebook, Instagram, and the NDIS. On the right side of the block is a collage of circular photographs showing various people, including children and adults, engaged in activities like playing sports, socializing, and celebrating.