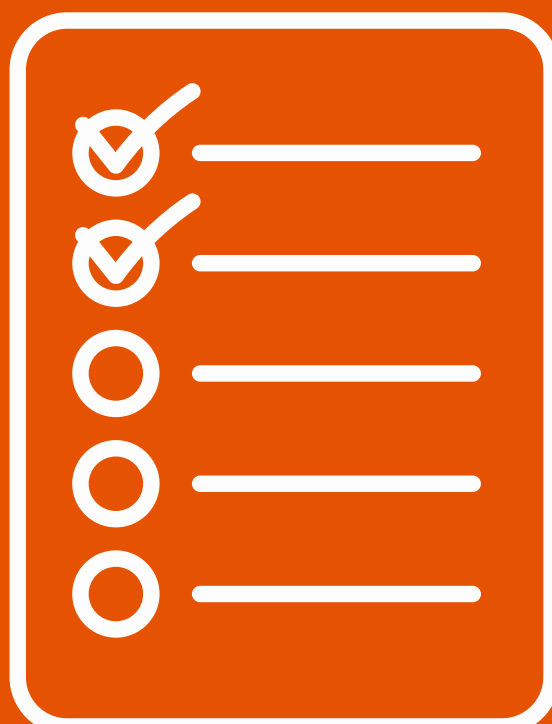


ACKNOWLEDGEMENT MATTERS: A GUIDE TO LIVED EXPERIENCE ENGAGEMENT

UPHOLDING FAIRNESS & DIGNITY

People with lived experience need to be fairly acknowledged for their work and contributions to co-design, policy, and service delivery reform in mental health processes.

The expertise and knowledge held by people with lived experience needs to be valued and not taken for granted.



PLAN AHEAD

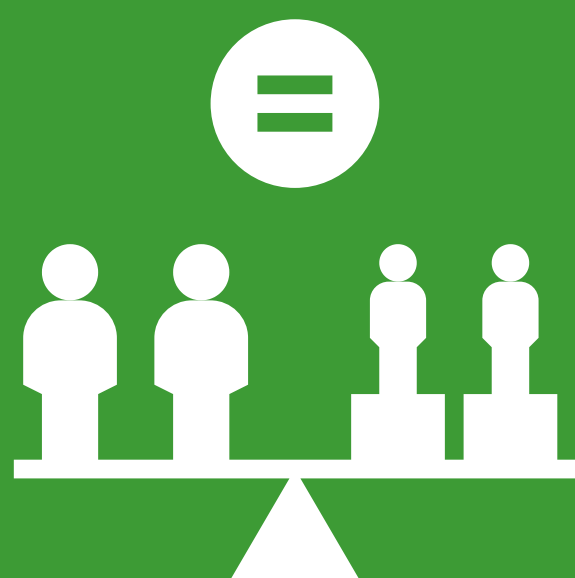
Considering what is fair pay for all people with lived experience should be taken into account when writing project proposals, funding proposals, and project plans. Think ahead!

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED:

When planning consumer engagement budgets, have you considered:

- travel costs & time
- meal allowances
- preparation time (i.e., reviewing documents prior to meetings)

ORGANISATIONAL SAFEGUARDS



Does your organisation have policies and procedures in place that uphold the rights of people with lived experience and ensure consumer engagement is fair?

PROMOTING CHOICE

Some people with lived experience may prefer payment methods such as vouchers. However, vouchers should only be offered if this is the recipient's choice, rather than being the organisation's preferred method.

People with lived experience may wish to volunteer their time. This should only be considered if it is voiced as the preferred option by the person with lived experience.

EMBRACING AUTONOMY

Past attitudes and practices which have contributed to the stigma and discrimination experience by people with lived experience, have endorsed the automatic use of vouchers as remuneration.

People with lived experience should be assumed to be autonomous individuals able to make their own decisions and should not be treated differently to other participants in terms of payment for their participation.



FURTHER READING

- [Mental Health Commission: Paid Participation Policy](#)
- [Orygen: Co-designing with Young People](#)
- [Scottish Human Rights Commission - Paying people with lived experience for their participation](#)
- [Health Consumers NSW: Remuneration and reimbursement of health consumers](#)
- [Black Dog Institute - Lived Experience Paid Participation Policy](#)
- [Mission Australia - Learning from Lived Experience: A Framework for Client Participation](#)