Hilary Johnson has extensive experience in the disability sector. Over the years she worked as a speech pathologist, manager and researcher. Since 2002 she has worked at Scope providing management direction and developing a new state-wide model of professional leadership and capacity building. In 2012, she was awarded her PhD from La Trobe university for a study on developing positive relationships for adults with complex communication needs. Currently she involved in research around communication access and other social inclusion issues. She has published three books, five book chapters and has 33 referred journal articles.