



**Independent  
Advisory  
Council**  
to the **ndis**



# **Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS**

**Our Annual Report: 2023–2024**

**Easy Read version**

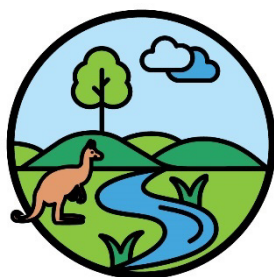


## Acknowledgement of Country



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the First Peoples of Australia.

We also use the words First Nations people.



First Nations people have always looked after Country.

Country means the land, water, sky and everything within them.



We respect the important connection that First Nations people have with Country.



And we respect their Elders from the past and now.

## How to use this report



We are the Independent Advisory Council (IAC).

We wrote this report.



We wrote some words in **bold**.

We explain what these words mean.

There is also a list of these words on page [23](#).



You can ask someone you trust for support to:

- read this report
- find more information.



This is an Easy Read summary of another report.

It only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other report on our website.

[www.ndis-iac.com.au/news](http://www.ndis-iac.com.au/news)

# What's in this report?

About this report 5

---

What we do 6

---

How we work 8

---

Our members 10

---

Our Reference Groups 14

---

Our work this year 16

---

Sharing our work 19

---

More information 22

---

Word list 23

---

## About this report



This report explains what we did from:

- **1 July 2023**
- to
- **30 June 2024.**

We explain:



- what we do



- who our members are



- how we have tried to make the **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)** better.

The NDIS provides services and support to people with disability.

## What we do



We give advice to the **NDIA Board**.



The NDIA Board is a group of people who make decisions about all parts of the NDIA.

Our advice is about:



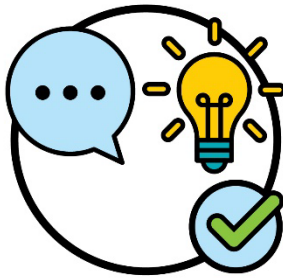
- the most important issues for people with disability



- how to make the NDIS better for people with disability.



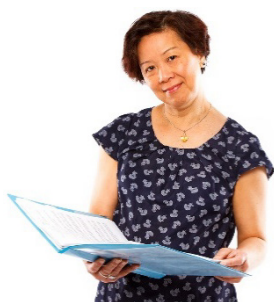
We are **independent**.



This means we can:

- say what we think
- have our own ideas and opinions about the NDIS.

# How we work



We have a guide about how we should work.

We call it our **Operating Model**.

Our Operating Model helps us work well:



- as a team

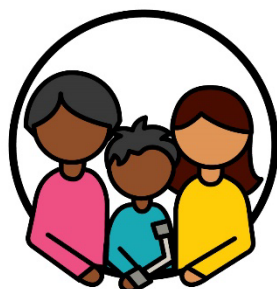


- with the NDIA.

It helps us connect with:



- people with disability



- families and communities.





## Our Operating Model has **4 main steps**

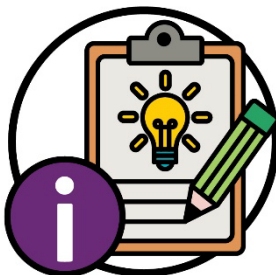
to help us:

- write our advice
- give the NDIA advice about issues they need help with.

The **4 steps** are:



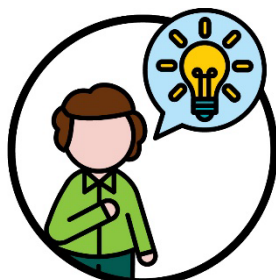
- decide what advice we think the NDIA needs



- collect information and write our advice

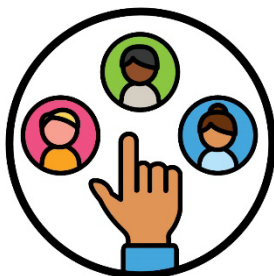


- share our advice with the NDIA Board



- share our advice with the community.

# Our members



The Minister for the NDIS chooses our members.

Our members include:



- people with disability



- people who are experts in disability



- family and carers



- providers.



Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.



Leah van Poppel



Dr Sharon Boyce



Gavin Burner



Jennifer Cullen AM



Dr Leighton Jay



Sylvana Mahmic



Tricia Malowney OAM



James Manders



Sam Paior



Dr George Taleporos



Mark Tonga

## **Other people who support the IAC**



Samantha Jenkinson



Lucy Testa

# Our Reference Groups



We have 4 **Reference Groups**.

A Reference Group is a group of people who give us advice about a certain topic.

Our Reference Groups are the:



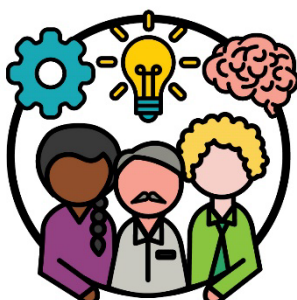
- Children, Young People and Families Reference Group



- Equity and Inclusion Reference Group



- Home and Living Reference Group



- Intellectual Disability Reference Group.



Our Reference Groups help support our advice.

Our Reference Groups include people who:



- know a lot about the topic for their group



- have disabilities



- come from different backgrounds.



You can find out more about each Reference Group on our website.

[www.ndis-iac.com.au/reference-groups](http://www.ndis-iac.com.au/reference-groups)



## Our work this year

### The advice we worked on



In the last **12 months**, we worked on advice for the NDIA Board.



When we give advice to the NDIA Board they must:

- listen to us
- do something about it.



We gave the NDIA Board advice about how to improve the NDIS for children and young **participants**.



Participants are people with disability who take part in the NDIS.



For example, supporting the different needs of each participant as they grow.





We also gave the NDIA Board advice about ways to support how a participant acts or behaves.



For example, knowing the reason that causes a participant to behave in a certain way.



The advice also shares that the experience of participants is important to improve this support.

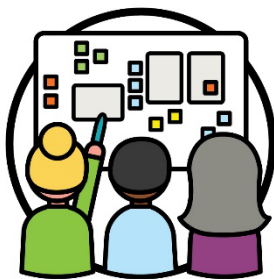


We worked on advice about ways to support participants who are getting older.

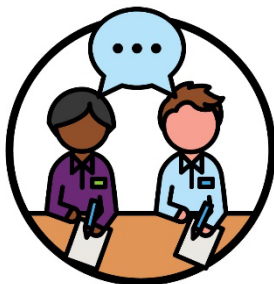


We looked at how different parts of who people are can affect getting older.

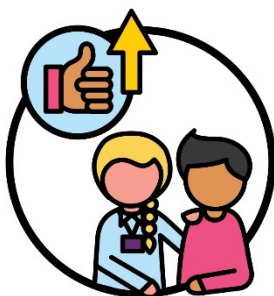
## How we supported co-design



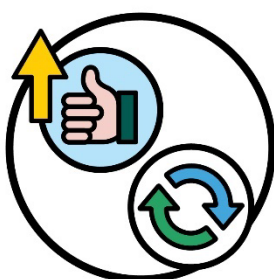
**Co-design** is when people work together to plan something new.



This year we worked with the NDIA to support their co-design work.

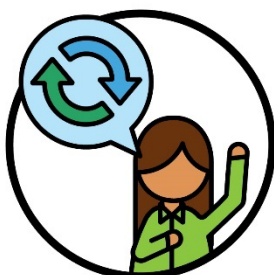


Our members worked with the NDIA to improve how they support participants.



The Australian Government gave the NDIA **\$732.9 million** to:

- improve the NDIS
- make changes to the NDIS.



Our members are helping to lead these changes.

## Sharing our work

Over the last year, we shared some of our work with:



- the NDIA



- the community.



This year we shared **21 bulletins** about our meetings.

This includes Easy Read versions.



You can find these bulletins on our website.

[www.ndis-iac.com.au/meetings](http://www.ndis-iac.com.au/meetings)

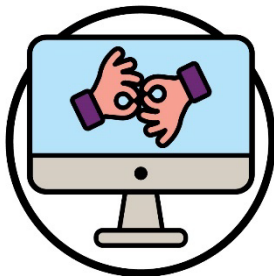
We updated our website:



- to make sure it works well for everyone



- so we can share plain English bulletins online.



We shared our annual report for **2022 to 2023** in different formats.

This includes an Auslan video.



We shared Easy Read meeting packs for most of our Reference Groups.

We want to keep finding new ways  
to communicate with:



- the community



- the Australian Government



- disability organisations



- people who support people with disability.

## More information



For more information about our Annual Report, please contact us.



You can visit our website.

[www.ndis-iac.com.au/news](http://www.ndis-iac.com.au/news)



You can send us an email.

[advisorycouncil@ndis.gov.au](mailto:advisorycouncil@ndis.gov.au)



You can learn more about the NDIS on their website.

[www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au)

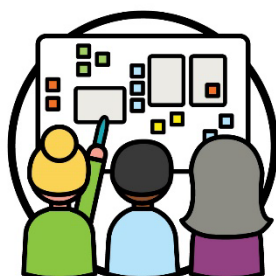


You can also call the NDIS.

**1800 800 110**

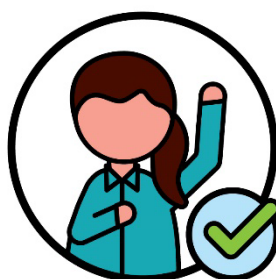
## Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this document mean.



### **Co-design**

Co-design is when people work together to plan something new.



### **Independent**

This means we can:

- say what we think
- have our own ideas and opinions about the NDIS.



### **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)**

The NDIS provides services and support to people with disability.



## NDIA Board

The NDIA Board is a group of people who make decisions about all parts of the NDIA.



## Operating Model

Our Operating Model helps us work well:

- as a team
- with the NDIA.



## Participants

Participants are people with disability who take part in the NDIS.





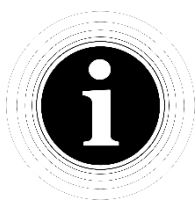
## Providers

Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.



## Reference Group

A Reference Group is a group of people who give us advice about a certain topic.



---

The Information Access Group created this Easy Read document using stock photography and custom images. The images may not be reused without permission. For any enquiries about the images, please visit [www.informationaccessgroup.com](http://www.informationaccessgroup.com).

Quote job number 6126.



**Independent  
Advisory  
Council**  
to the **ndis**

## **Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS**

**[advisorycouncil@ndis.gov.au](mailto:advisorycouncil@ndis.gov.au)**

**[ndis-iac.com.au](http://ndis-iac.com.au)**