

Children, Young People and Families Reference Group

Easy Read meeting bulletin

3–4 June 2025



How to use this bulletin



We are the Independent Advisory Council (IAC).

We give advice about ways to make the NDIS better.



We wrote some words in **bold**.

We explain what these words mean.

There is also a list of these words on page [19](#).



We wrote this **bulletin**.

A bulletin is an important news item we share with the community.

It explains what we did in our meeting.



You can ask someone you trust for support to:

- read this bulletin
- find more information.



This is an Easy Read summary of another bulletin.

It only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other bulletin on our website.

www.ndis-iac.com.au/meetings

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About this Reference Group



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

This Reference Group is about:



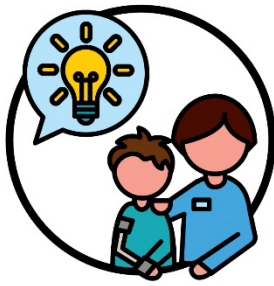
- children



- young people



- their families.



The Reference Group shares their ideas with the IAC about how to support children and young people with disability.

This includes support to:



- do things for themselves



- take part in the community.



The IAC use these ideas from the Reference Group when they write their advice for the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Board.

We just call them the **NDIA Board**.



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

What issues did the community share?



Reference Group members connected with the community to find out about issues that affect them.



This includes issues that affect **participants**.

Participants are people with disability who take part in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).



Members shared reports about these issues with the NDIA.



People from the NDIA also shared their response to some of these issues.

Changes to NDIS laws



Reference Group members said people are worried about some changes to NDIS laws.



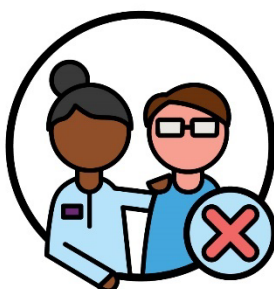
This includes laws about:

- NDIS supports
- **NDIS plans.**



An NDIS plan is a document that includes information about:

- a participant and their goals
- what support they receive from the NDIS
- what the NDIS will pay for.



This means participants can't get some supports from the NDIS anymore.



And it is hard for them to pay for these supports themselves.



Members said people are also confused about how **funding periods** have changed.

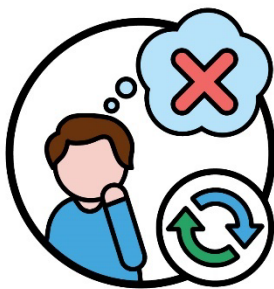


Funding periods tell participants:

- when part of their **funding** can be used
- how long their funding needs to last.



Funding is money from someone's NDIS plan that pays for the supports they need.



Some people didn't know that funding periods would change before they did.



People also are unsure if these funding periods are right for families with young children.

The NDIA said decisions about funding periods should:



- be made with the participant



- change to support what a participant needs.

Changes to NDIS plans

Reference Group members said people are worried about changes to:



- NDIS plans



- how the NDIA checks if a participant still needs NDIS supports.



Participants and their families are worried the NDIA are not listening to what they have to say.

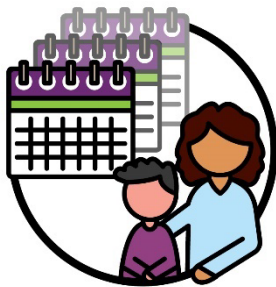


They also want the NDIA to explain more clearly how they make decisions.



The NDIA said they're working with the community to improve their experiences.

Long wait times for early childhood supports

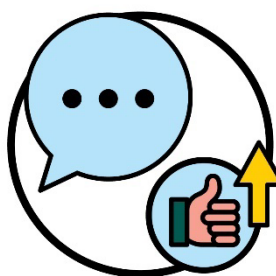


Reference Group members said some participants have to wait a long time for early childhood supports.



Members said this is causing a lot of issues for participants who need support.

The way the NDIA communicates



Reference Group members said the NDIA should improve the way they communicate.



The NDIA said they know it's important to improve how they communicate about changes to the NDIS.

This includes how the NDIA shares this information with:



- their staff



- the IAC and Reference Groups



- the disability community.

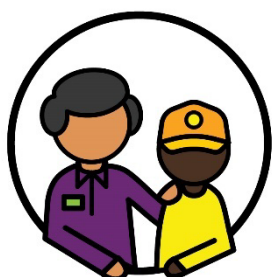
Update on the NDIA's Children's Taskforce



The NDIA gave an update about their work on their Children's Taskforce.



The Children's Taskforce focuses on children up to **14 years old** who take part in the NDIS.



It supports these children during different stages of their life.



The NDIA said they are working on a new way for children **younger than 9 years old** to get support:

- as early as possible
- when they first get a disability.

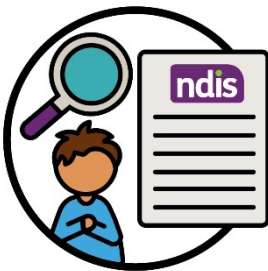
The NDIA are working on:



- making a group where young people can share what they have to say



- meeting with First Nations parents who have children with disability.



The NDIA are also working on how they check if young children still need the NDIS when they are **over 6 years old**.



They want to make sure more children **between 0 to 8 years old** get the support they need.



Reference Group members said they were happy the NDIA gave them an update on this work.

Update on the IAC Work Plan

A Work Plan is a document that explains the work the IAC will do from:



- **1 July 2025**

to

- **30 June 2026.**



The IAC's Independent Advisor gave an update on the **draft** IAC Work Plan.

A draft is a document that isn't finished yet.

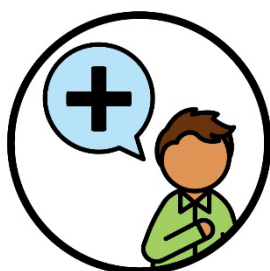


The IAC's Independent Advisors are people who work with the IAC and Reference Groups.

They help the IAC and Reference Groups make their advice.



They told Reference Group members how their skills can support the Work Plan.



Members talked about what they would like to include in a smaller Work Plan.

Our next meeting



Our next meeting will be on
10 September 2025.



You can find out more about our meetings
and bulletins on our website.

www.ndis-iac.com.au/meetings

More information

For more information about this bulletin, please contact us.



You can visit our website.

www.ndis-iac.com.au



You can send us an email.

advisorycouncil@ndis.gov.au



You can visit the NDIS website.

www.ndis.gov.au



You can call the NDIS.

1800 800 110

Word list

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



Bulletin

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It explains what we did in our meeting.



Funding

Funding is money from someone's NDIS plan that pays for the supports they need.



Funding period

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- how long their funding needs to last.



NDIA Board

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NDIS plan



An NDIS plan is a document that includes information about:

- a participant and their goals
- what support they receive from the NDIS
- what the NDIS will pay for.



Participants

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



Reference Group

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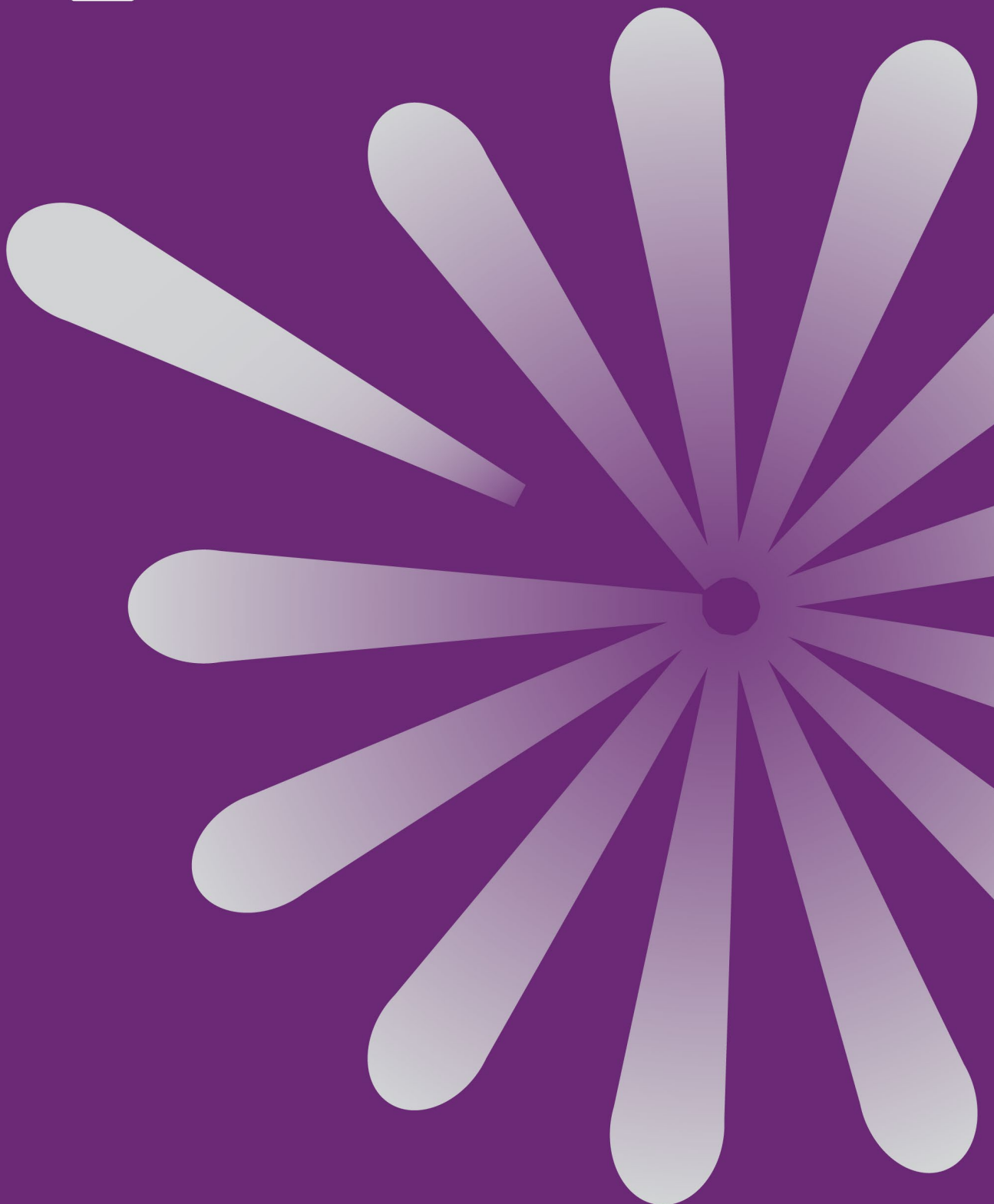
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