

Independent Advisory Council

An Easy Read meeting bulletin

12–13 September 2024



How to use this bulletin



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

It explains what we did in our meeting.



The Independent Advisory Council gives advice about ways to make the NDIS better.

In this bulletin, we just say IAC.



The IAC wrote this bulletin.

When you read the word 'we', it means the IAC.



We wrote this bulletin in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.



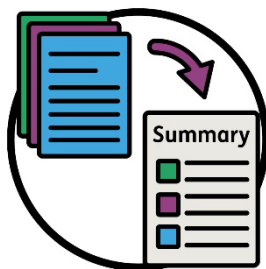
We wrote some important words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these bold words mean.

There is a list of these words on page **19**.



This is an Easy Read summary of another bulletin.

This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other bulletin on our website.

www.ndis-iac.com.au/meetings



You can ask for help to read our bulletin.

A friend, family member or support person might be able to help you.

What's in this bulletin?

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What happened at the meeting?



Ms Leah van Poppel ran the meeting.

She is the IAC's Principal Member.

She's also a member of 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.



We held the meeting on **12** and **13**
September 2024.

At the meeting, IAC Members talked about:



- what they have heard in their communities



- the **NDIS Amendment Bill** – a new law to change some parts of the NDIS



- our **Work Plan** for **2024** to **2025** – a plan for the work we will do this year.

Our reports



IAC Members connected with the community to find out about issues that affect them.



IAC Members shared these issues with the NDIA.

What did the reports talk about?

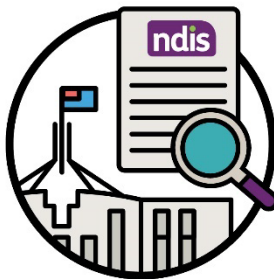


IAC Members shared that a lot is changing for the community.

This is because of:



- the NDIS Amendment Bill



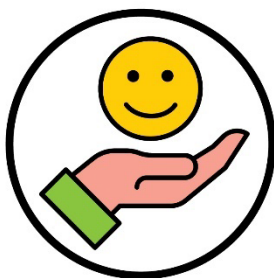
- the **NDIS Review**.

The Australian Government checked the NDIS to find out what:



- worked well
- could be better.

They call it the NDIS Review.



IAC Members shared that it is important to be kind in this time.



IAC Members worry that the community does not understand **foundational supports**.



Foundational supports are disability supports for all people with disability.

This includes people with disability who are not NDIS **participants**.



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



IAC Members explained that sometimes the NDIA will change participants' **NDIS plans**.



An NDIS plan is a document that includes information about:

- you and your goals
- what support you receive from the NDIS.



Sometimes the NDIA will do this when they call for a **check-in**.

A check-in is when the NDIA talks with someone about how their supports are going.



IAC Members worry that some **support coordinators** are leaving the NDIS.

A support coordinator is someone who helps people with disability plan and use their supports.



This can mean some participants are not getting the support they need.



Funding is money from the government that pays for services and supports.



IAC Members want the NDIA to make it clear if funding can pay for **insurance** for workers.



Insurance is a service you pay for to protect you if something goes wrong.

If you have insurance and something goes wrong, your insurance company pays the cost.



IAC Members said the NDIA should explain this quickly.

What important updates were in the meeting?

The NDIS Amendment Bill



IAC Members talked about the new law called the NDIS Amendment Bill.



The NDIS Amendment Bill will start working on **3 October 2024**.



IAC Members explained that the NDIA should do more to let people know about what will change.



This includes:

- making information clear
- sharing information with the right people.

IAC Work Plan for 2024 to 2025

IAC Members agreed to update the IAC Work Plan to focus on:



- foundational supports



- the ways people can join and use the NDIS



- navigators.

Navigators will help people with disability to:



- learn about different supports
- connect with experts
- find and use the supports they need.



IAC Members explained that they will think about including **gender** in their work.



Your gender is what you feel and understand about who you are as a person.

You might think of yourself as a man or a woman or something different.

You can choose the words that are right for you.

IAC's advice for the NDIA Board



IAC Members talked about their advice for the NDIA Board about participants who are getting older.

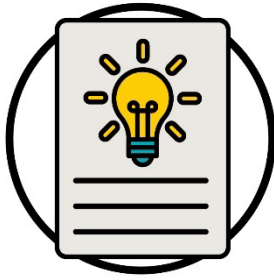


The advice is still a **draft**.

This means it isn't finished.

It might change later.

IAC Members got:



- a copy of the draft advice



- a plain English summary



- a document looking into research that supports the advice.



The NDIA is working on their response to the IAC's advice about making behaviour supports better.



The NDIA Board has looked at the IAC's advice about making the NDIS better for children and young people.



The NDIA sent this advice to the **Minister** for the NDIS.

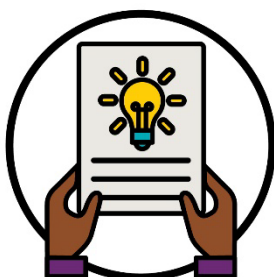
A minister leads an area of the government.



The Minister for the NDIS will share this advice with this Disability Reform Ministerial Council (DRMC).



The DRMC is a group of ministers from around Australia who make laws better for people with disability.



The NDIA will share this advice with the community after sharing it with the DRMC.

Our next meeting



Our next meeting is on **7 November 2024**.



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

www.ndis-iac.com.au/meetings

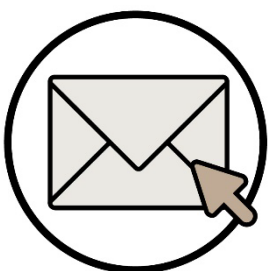
More information

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

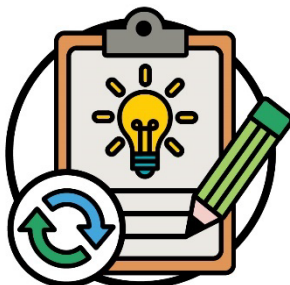
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It explains what we did in our meeting.



Check-in

A check-in is when the NDIA talks with someone about how their supports are going.



Draft

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Foundational supports



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A minister leads an area of the government.



Navigators

Navigators will help people with disability to:

- learn about different supports
- connect with experts
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NDIA Board

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NDIS Amendment Bill

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NDIS plan

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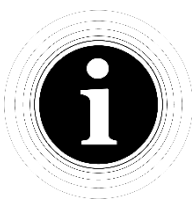
Support Coordinator

A support coordinator is someone who helps people with disability plan and use their supports.



Work Plan

Our Work Plan is a plan for the work we will do this year.



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



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