

# Independent Advisory Council

An Easy Read meeting bulletin

15 August 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.



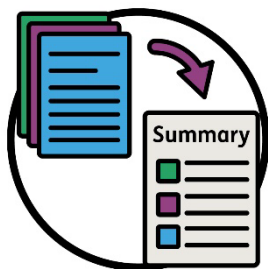
We wrote some important words in **bold**.

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](http://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.

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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 **15 August 2024**.

At the meeting, IAC Members talked about:



- what they have heard in their communities



- our **Work Plan** for **2024** to **2025**.

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



IAC Members talked about the first IAC meeting with all 4 **Reference Groups**.

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



IAC Members also talked about how to make the NDIS better for First Nations **participants**.



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

Leah welcomed:



- people from the NDIA Board



- people who work for the NDIA



- Mr Jeff Smith.



Leah shared that Jeff is a new **Expert Advisor** for the IAC.

Expert Advisors are people who:



- have worked with people with disability for a long time
- know a lot about how the NDIS works.

## 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?

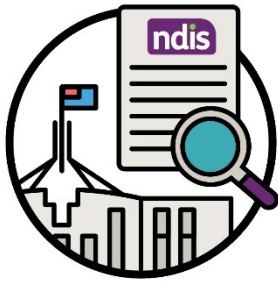


IAC Members shared that a lot is changing for the community.



This is because some of the laws about the NDIS are changing.





It is also because the community is waiting to hear what the Australian Government thinks about the **NDIS Review**.



The Australian Government checked the NDIS to find out what:

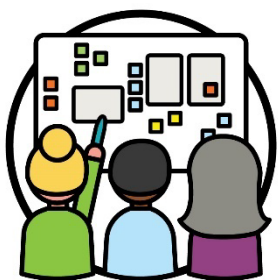
- worked well
- could be better.

They call it the NDIS Review.



IAC Members shared that information about changes to the NDIS needs to be:

- explained in the right way
- shared quickly with the community.



IAC Members also shared that people feel good about some of the NDIA's **co-design** work.

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



This co-design work is about new ways to share **NDIS plans**.



An NDIS plan is a document that includes information about:

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



But people still worry that the NDIA can change a participant's NDIS plans when they don't expect it.



Sometimes the NDIA will change NDIS plans 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 shared that some **providers** might not deliver NDIS supports anymore.



Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.

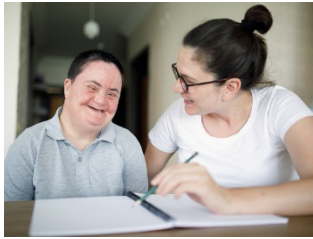


For example, providers who work in areas far away from cities and towns.



This is because the rules about what NDIS supports should cost have changed.

IAC Members also shared that the community feel good about Queensland's work on:



- supports about learning



- **foundational supports.**



Foundational supports are disability supports for all people with disability.

This includes people with disability who are not NDIS participants.



People hope that other states and territories will do the same.



IAC Members explained that the Garma Festival is an important event for First Nations people.

The Garma Festival helps to understand:



- how First Nations communities work



- what First Nations activities mean.

# What important updates were in the meeting?

## IAC Work Plan for 2024 to 2025



IAC Members talked about what ideas in the IAC Work Plan are most important.

IAC Members agreed to focus on how:



- the IAC works with the Reference Groups



- the IAC and Reference Groups work with the NDIA and the NDIA Board.



IAC Members also talked about the first IAC meeting with all **4** Reference Groups.

This meeting was on **3** and **4 July 2024**.



IAC Members agreed that the meeting will help the IAC and Reference Groups to work better.

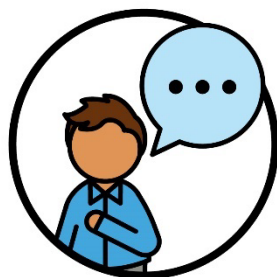
## Making the NDIS better for First Nations participants



IAC Members and people from the NDIA talked about how to make the NDIS better for First Nations participants.



All IAC Members supported the idea to create a First Nations Reference Group as part of the IAC.



A First Nations Reference Group will help support First Nations people with disability to share their thoughts with the NDIA.



The IAC already has **4** Reference Groups.



## Our next meeting



Our next meeting will run for **2** days:

- **11 September 2024**
- **12 September 2024.**



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

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

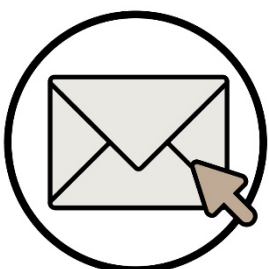
## More information

For more information about this bulletin,  
please contact us.



You can visit our website.

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



You can send us an email.

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



You can visit the NDIS website.

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

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

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.



### **Co-design**

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



## Expert Advisor

Expert Advisors are people who:

- have worked with people with disability for a long time
- know a lot about how the NDIS works.



## Foundational supports

Foundational supports are disability supports for all people with disability.

This includes people with disability who are not NDIS participants.



## NDIA Board

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



## NDIS plan

An NDIS plan is a document that includes information about:

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



## NDIS Review

The Australian Government checked the NDIS to find out what:

- worked well
- could be better.

They call it the NDIS Review.



## Participants

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



### Providers

Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.



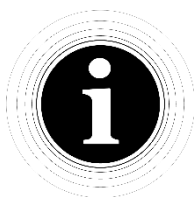
### Reference Group

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



### Work Plan

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



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Advisory  
Council**  
to the **ndis**



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