

Independent Advisory Council

Easy Read meeting bulletin

26 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 [27](#).



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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What happened at the meeting?



We held the meeting on **26 June 2025**.

At the meeting, IAC Members talked about:



- the work the IAC is doing



- what they have heard in their communities



- some updates about the National Disability Insurance Agency's (NDIA) work.

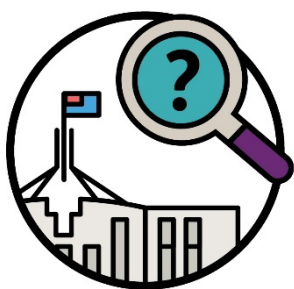
What did the Minister for the NDIS have to say?



Jenny McAllister is the **Minister** for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

A minister leads an area of the government.

Jenny asked IAC Members:



- what the Australian Government should focus on to support people with disability



- how the Australian Government can do this in the **next 18 months.**

What IAC Members had to say



IAC Members said the Australian Government should focus on ways to improve the lives of people with disability.



This includes ways to:

- keep people with disability safe
- make sure people treat people with disability fairly.

IAC Members said the government should:



- support more people with disability to have their say



- support good **attitudes** about people with disability in the community.



Your attitude is what you:

- think
- feel
- believe.



This includes good attitudes about **participants**.

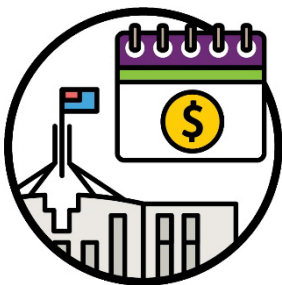
Participants are people with disability who take part in the NDIS.



IAC Members said the government should let people with disability:

- keep working

and



- not lose money from their disability support **pension**.

A pension is money from the government to help with your day-to-day living costs.



IAC Members said the government should create a new law about treating people with disability:

- fairly
- equally.

IAC Members also said the government should:



- improve the way it communicates with participants



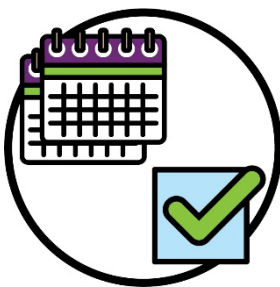
- support people with disability to start and run their own businesses



- improve their rules about housing that can be a support for people with disability.



Jenny shared how the NDIS is working to be better for people with disability.



Jenny also said the NDIS aims to:

- last a long time
- help participants achieve their goals.

What issues did the community share?



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



This includes issues that affect participants.



IAC Members shared reports about these issues with people from the NDIA.

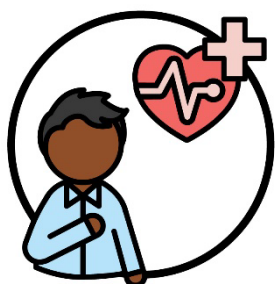


People from the NDIA also shared their response to some of these issues.

Changes to NDIS laws



IAC Members said some changes to NDIS laws have affected participants in a bad way.



This includes affecting their health and wellbeing.



These changes include shorter **funding periods**.

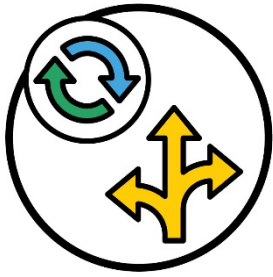


Funding periods tell participants:

- 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.



IAC Members said participants need the NDIS to:

- change to support what each person needs
- work in different ways.



IAC Members said there needs to be more information about funding periods.

The way the NDIA checks what participants need



IAC Members said they're worried about the new way the NDIA checks:

- how a participant's disability affects their life
- what supports a participant needs.

The NDIA is working on the best way to share information about this to:



- participants



- NDIA workers



- **providers.**

Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.



This includes information about how this will work for the **next 5 years.**

Participants who live far away from cities and towns



IAC Members said they're worried about participants who live far away from cities and towns.



They worry changes to funding will affect how these participants travel to their supports.



The NDIA said they know about the issues some participants are having.

The NDIA said they're looking into:



- what participants need



- how much providers are charging.

Home and Living Reference Group meeting



IAC Members talked about things that were said in the last Home and Living **Reference Group** meeting.



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

IAC Members said a lot of people are worried about changes to:



- how much supports and services cost



- how much funding participants can get for travel.



The NDIA said they worked with experts to decide what these supports should cost.



These experts did not work for the NDIA.

Managing NDIS plans



IAC Members are worried that the NDIA is stopping participants from managing their **NDIS plans** on their own.



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.

IAC Members asked the NDIA if:

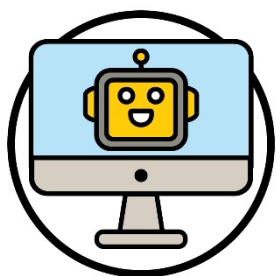


- they are stopping participants from managing their NDIS plan
- or
- participants are choosing to stop managing their NDIS plan.



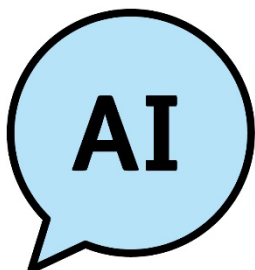
IAC Members also asked if the NDIA is working in the best way.

Artificial intelligence



Artificial intelligence is when computers think and learn.

People can use it to help solve problems and do tasks.



Sometimes people call it AI.

IAC Members asked if **NDIS planners** are using AI to:



- read hard or long reports



- make decisions.

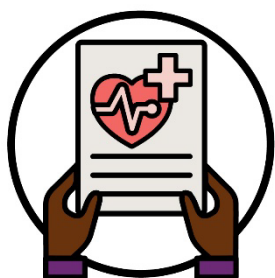


An NDIS planner is someone who:

- makes new NDIS plans
- changes NDIS plans.



The NDIA said NDIS planners can't use AI on their work computers.



This means they can't use AI to read reports about a participant's health.

Update on foundational supports



The NDIA gave IAC Members an update on **foundational supports**.



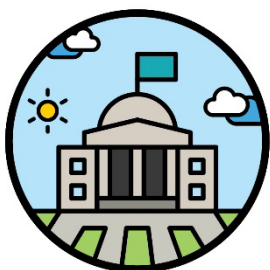
Foundational supports are disability supports for all people with disability.

This includes people with disability who don't take part in the NDIS.

The NDIA are working with:



- parts of the Australian Government



- state and territory governments.



They are working to create rules about how foundational supports should work.

They are also working on ways to make sure foundational supports work well for:



- people with disability



- families and carers of people with disability.



The NDIA asked IAC Members what they think about foundational supports.

IAC Members said all foundational supports need to work well:



- in different states and territories



- with NDIS supports.

Update on the IAC's advice



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 gave an update on the IAC's home and living advice.



The advice will focus on how to make sure people with disability are treated:

- fairly
- equally.



The advice will also focus on the NDIA's role to make sure home and living supports work well.



The NDIA are happy to get advice about home and living.



The NDIA wants this advice to:

- focus on supporting participants in the ways they need
- be ready and easy to use.



The NDIA also wants this advice to include the experiences of different people.

Our next meeting



Our next meeting is in **5 and 6 August 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 learn more about the NDIS on their website.

www.ndis.gov.au

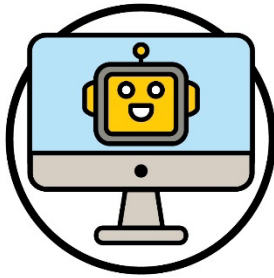


You can call the NDIS.

1800 800 110

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NDIS planners



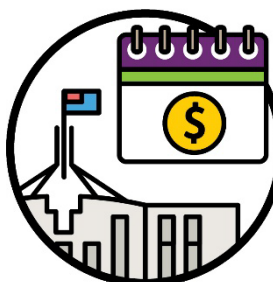
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