

Independent Advisory Council

An Easy Read meeting bulletin

21–22 May 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 see the word 'we', it means the IAC.



We wrote this bulletin in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Bold

Not bold

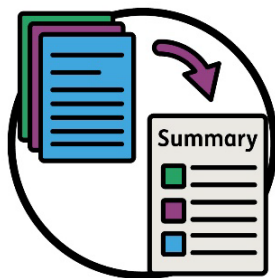
We wrote some important words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these bold words mean.

There is a list of these words on page **23**.



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 may be able to help you.

What's in this bulletin?

What happened at the meeting? 5

Our reports 9

What important updates were in the meeting? 15

Our next meeting 21

More information 22

Word list 23

What happened at the meeting?

Ms Leah van Poppel ran the meeting.



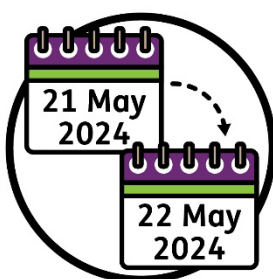
She is the IAC's Principal Member.

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 21 and 22 May 2024.



IAC Members talked about the work they have done on their advice for the NDIA Board.

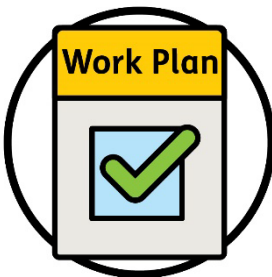


IAC Members also talked about what they heard in the community.



They also talked about their advice to the NDIS Provider and Worker Registration Taskforce.

In this document we call it the Taskforce.



IAC Members also talked about our Work Plan.

Our Work Plan is a document that explains the work we will do this year.

Leah welcomed:



- members from the NDIA Board



- some people who help run the NDIA



- Adjunct Professor Janine Mohamed.

Janine is the NDIA's Deputy Chief Executive Officer, First Nations.



This means she:

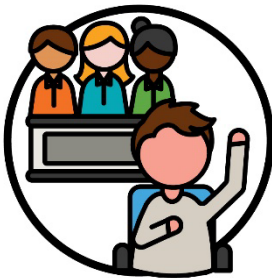
- helps run the NDIA
- looks after First Nations people in the NDIS.



Janine explained the NDIA's work to improve the NDIS for First Nations people with disability.



Leah thanked Mr Kurt Fearnley AO for joining the meeting.



Kurt is the Chairperson of the NDIA Board.

This means he runs the NDIA Board.



Leah also thanked Dr Peta Seaton AM for joining the meeting.



Peta is a member of the NDIA Board.

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 the NDIS has a good impact on people with disability.



They said the NDIA should keep making it better for **participants**.



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



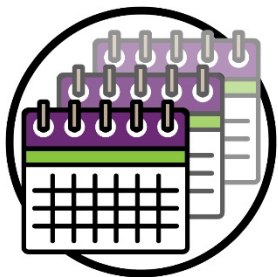
IAC Members shared many people worry about what might change in the NDIS.



They want the NDIA to share information about what might change.



IAC Members talked about planning.



They shared that some people have to wait a long time for their planning meetings.

This includes:



- children



- people whose lives have changed.



IAC Members shared that sometimes the NDIS contacts participants about their plan before their next planning meeting.



Some participants told IAC Members that the NDIA changed their plan because of what they talked about when the NDIS contacted them.

IAC Members shared some ideas to make the NDIS better for:



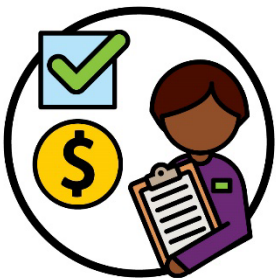
- participants



- providers.



Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.



They talked about changing how the NDIA checks and pays for supports.

They also talked about making sure the way the NDIS checks in on participants who need a lot of support is:



- easy to understand



- the same every time.



IAC Members shared that some community organisations that support people with disability might close.

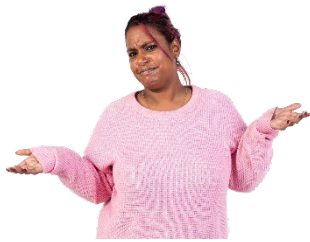


They talked about what the NDIA could do to help these organisations:

- stay open
- keep supporting people with disability.



IAC Members shared that sometimes the NDIA answers questions about what supports the NDIS will pay for with different information.



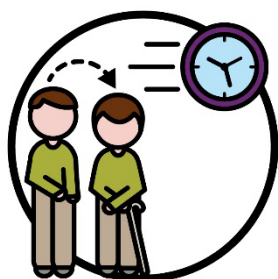
This can make it hard for participants to understand if the NDIS will pay for a support.

What important updates were in the meeting?

Advice on participants who are getting older



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



IAC Members talked about people whose bodies get older faster than other people.



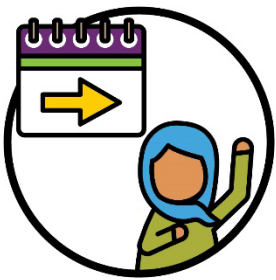
They also talked about how organisations can affect older people with disability.



For example, organisations that might have kept older people with disability away from the community.



IAC Members also talked about how the NDIS works with other supports, like aged care.



IAC Members shared it's important to support participants who are getting older to plan for the future.

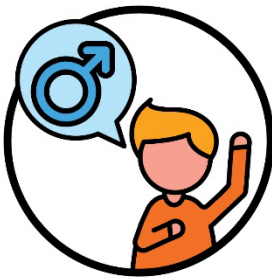


For example, supporting participants to choose where they get support.

IAC Members also talked about how getting older can be different for people because of their:



- background



- gender.

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



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

You can choose the words that are right for you.

The NDIS Provider and Worker Registration Taskforce



IAC Members met with people from the Taskforce.

They talked about:



- the ideas the IAC has shared with the Taskforce

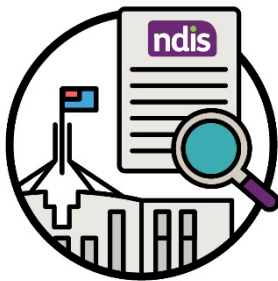


- the new rules the Taskforce is making.



These rules will help the NDIA keep participants safe.

The Taskforce is making them because of the **NDIS Review**.



The Australian Government checked the NDIS to find out what:

- worked well
- could be better.

They call it the NDIS Review.

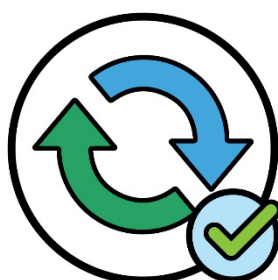


IAC Members shared that they are happy with how the Taskforce is working with the disability community.

IAC Work Plan for 2024 to 2025



IAC Members talked about our Work Plan for the next year.

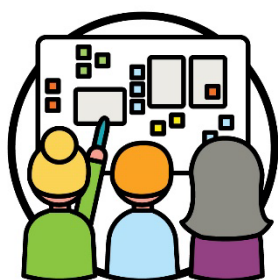


We need to make sure our Work Plan can follow what the Australian Government will change. For example, because of the NDIS Review.

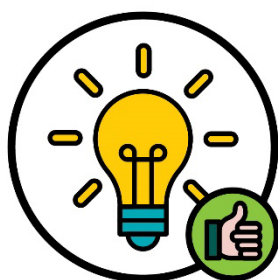


IAC Members talked about the NDIA's **co-design** work.

We will make sure our work is different to the NDIA's co-design activities.

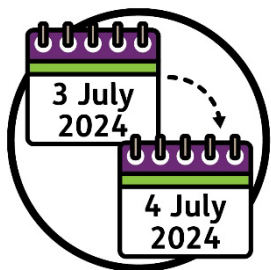


Co-design is when people work together to plan something new.



We will also use good ideas from our past advice in the work we do this year.

Our next meeting



Our next meeting is on 3 and 4 July 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

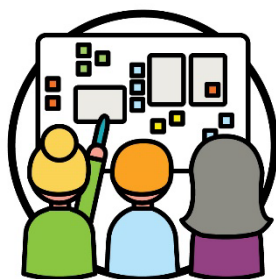
This list explains what the **bold** words in this document mean.



Bulletin

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

It explains what we did in our meeting.



Co-design

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



Gender

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

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

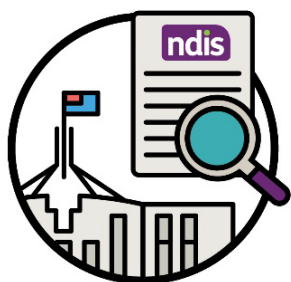
You can choose the words that are right for you.



NDIA Board

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

NDIS Review



The Australian Government checked the NDIS to find out what:

- worked well
- could be better.

They call it the NDIS Review.



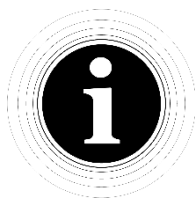
Participants

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



Providers

Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.



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. Quote job number 5264-A.



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



ndis-iac.com.au