

Home and Living Reference Group

An Easy Read meeting bulletin

16 April 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

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

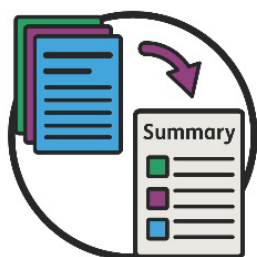
Not bold

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these bold words mean.

There is a list of these words on page **20**.



This Easy Read bulletin is a 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?

About this Reference Group 5

The Reference Group Co-Chairs 7

Our reports 8

Ideas from the NDIS Review 12

The navigator role 14

The NDIA's co-design work 16

Our next meeting 18

More information 19

Word list 20

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 home and living supports.

The Reference Group gives advice to the IAC about how people with disability can:



- live in their own home



- choose where they want to live.

They also give advice to the IAC about how people with disability can:



- do things for themselves in their home



- take part in their 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.

The Reference Group Co-Chairs



Dr George Taleporos is an IAC Member.

He is also the Reference Group Co-Chair.

This means he helps run the Reference Group.



Dr Leighton Jay is an IAC Member.

He is also a Reference Group Co-Chair.



George and Leighton both ran the meeting.



Leighton gave an update on the work of:

- the IAC
- the other Reference Groups.

Our reports

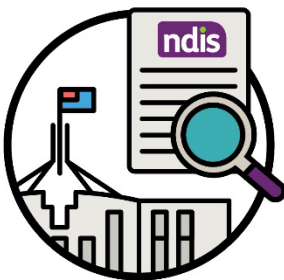


The Reference Group connected with the community to find out about issues that affect them.



The Reference Group members shared these issues with the NDIA.

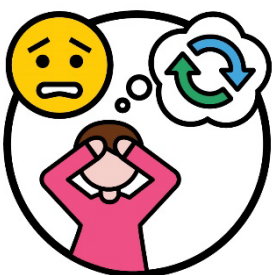
What did the reports talk about?



The Australian Government checked the NDIS to find out what:

- worked well
- could be better.

They call it the **NDIS Review**.



Reference Group members shared that some **participants** worry about how the NDIS Review might change their supports.

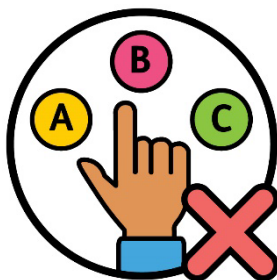
This includes their home and living supports.



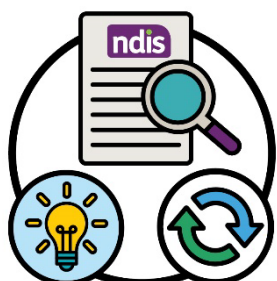
Participants are people with disability who take part in the NDIS.



An idea from the NDIS Review suggests that one support worker should support 3 participants.



Participants worry that this will limit their choice and control.



Members also shared that there needs to be clear information about:

- the ideas from the NDIS Review
- what might change as a result of these ideas.



Members explained there is not enough **accessible** housing in some areas.



When housing is accessible it:

- supports what you need
- is easy to move around in.



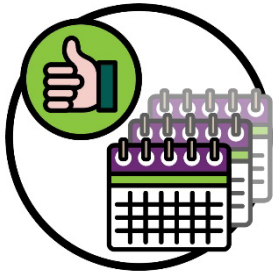
This includes accessible housing for people with **psychosocial disability**.

A psychosocial disability affects your mental health.

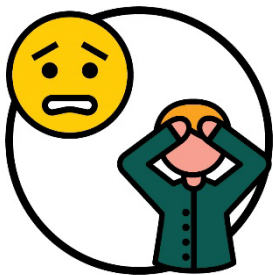


It can affect how you:

- think
- feel
- deal with other people.



Members also explained that it's important for people with psychosocial disability to get supports that last a long time.



Members shared that they worry for people with disability in the **justice system**.

Our justice system includes:



- prisons
- the courts
- police
- the law.



It can be harder for people with disability in the justice system to contact the NDIS for supports.

Ideas from the NDIS Review



Reference Group members talked about the ideas from the NDIS Review about home and living.



Members explained that home and living **funding** should support:

- what participants need
- their choice and control.



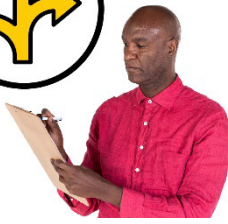
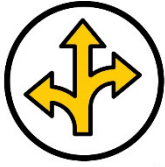
Funding is money from the government that pays for services and supports.



For example, some people with disability who need extra support do not want to live with other people.



Members also explained there should be more research about what types of home and living supports participants need.



Members shared that it's important to plan different ways for people with disability to use home and living supports.



But some laws make it hard to do this.

Members talked about:



- how participants might use their funding in different ways



- how to keep participants safe when using their funding in different ways.

The navigator role



Reference Group members talked about the idea from the NDIS Review to create a **navigator** role.



Navigators will help people with disability to:

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



Members shared that navigators should:

- speak up for people with disability
- be part of the same community as the people they support.



Members explained that it's important to give people with disability choice and control with their navigator.



Members talked about how the government should pay navigators to deliver services.



Members worry that creating a navigator role might make the NDIS harder to understand.

The NDIA's co-design work



Dr George Taleporos gave an update about the NDIA's **co-design** work.



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

This includes the NDIA's work to:



- improve how they share information about home and living supports



- make it easier for participants to ask for home and living supports.



Members shared that co-design must support people with disability to have their say in decisions that affect them.



It is also important that the NDIA runs programs the right way.



This means making sure programs work the way co-design groups want them to.

Our next meeting



Our next meeting will be in 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 learn more about the NDIS on their 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.

Accessible



When housing is accessible it:

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Bulletin

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Navigators

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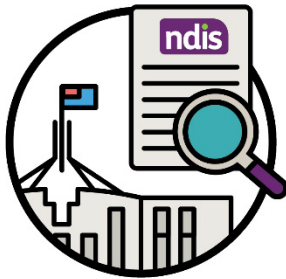


- learn about different supports
- connect with experts
- find and use the supports they need.



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Psychosocial disability

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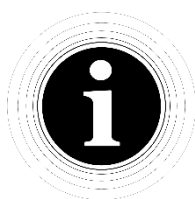
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Reference Group

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**Independent
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