

Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS

Meeting Bulletin 27 July 2021



Easy Read



Hard words

This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**

- we write what the word means.

You can get help with this book



You can get someone to help you

- read this book

- know what this book is about

- find more information.



About this book

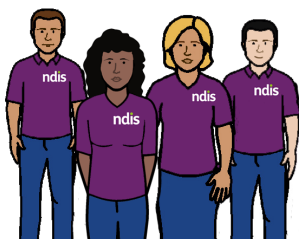


The **Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS** wrote this book.

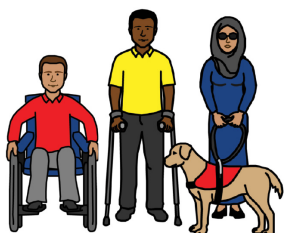
We will call it the Council.



The Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS gives advice to the **National Disability Insurance Agency**.



The National Disability Insurance Agency or NDIA manages the **National Disability Insurance Scheme**.



The National Disability Insurance Scheme or NDIS gives services and support to people with disability.



This book tells you what happened at our meeting on 27 July 2021.

The Council meets every month.

Who was at the meeting?



The meeting was run by Ms Robyn Kruk who is the Council's Principal Member.



The other people at the meeting were

- Mr Martin Hoffman who is the Chief Executive Officer of the NDIA



- 11 Council members

- 1 expert adviser



- NDIA managers.

What happened at the meeting?

Updates from the Principal Member



The Minister for the NDIS and NDIA CEO sent letters to Council members to thank them for their work on **formal advice** about **Scheme reforms**.



Formal advice means we tell the NDIA what we think about how they manage the NDIS.



We also give formal advice to the Minister for the NDIS.



Formal advice helps the NDIA learn about

- problems that people with disability might have

and

- ways the NDIA can help fix the problems.





Scheme reforms are important changes the NDIA will do to

- make the NDIS better for everyone

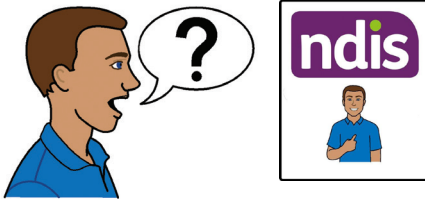
and



- change NDIS laws.

Council is talking to the NDIA about its work

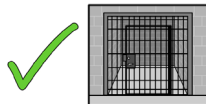
that will help people



- apply for the NDIS



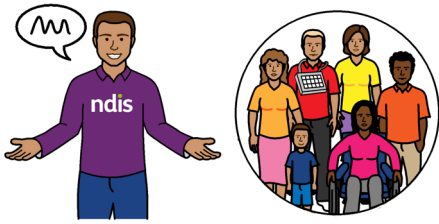
- get supports to get jobs



- who have complex support needs.

For example, people who use more than 1 service system, like justice, mental health and disability.

Updates from the Deputy Chair

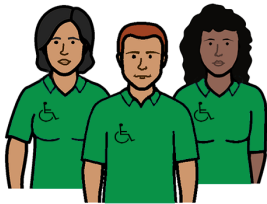


Council and the NDIA will work together to agree on the best ways for the NDIA to work with the disability community.



The NDIA will work with

- groups who use the NDIS



- organisations that deliver disability services



- other disability experts.

Updates from the NDIA CEO



The NDIA will **not** use **independent assessments**.



Independent assessments was the way the NDIA wanted to work out

- how your disability affects your life

and



- what supports you need from the NDIS.



The NDIA will keep doing other important work to make the NDIS better for everyone.



The NDIA will give everyone more information about

- how it works with Council



- its **Corporate Plan**
 - the Corporate Plan says what work the NDIA will do from 2021 to 2025.

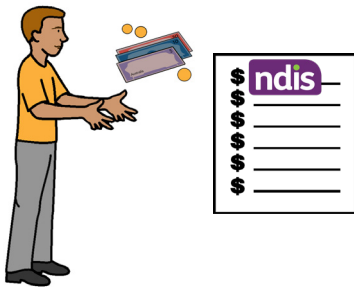
Problems Council has heard about



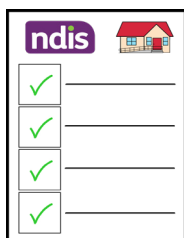
Council talked about what people with disability have told them about the NDIS.



Some people with disability are happy that the NDIA will **not** use independent assessments.



Some disability communities are worried that pay rises for disability workers are **not** included in NDIS plans.

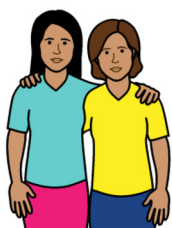


Some people with disability who use **Individualised Living Options** are worried about decisions in their NDIS plan.

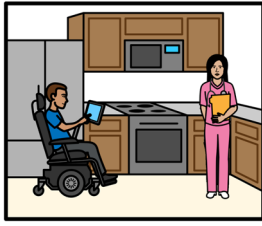


Individualised Living Options means NDIS money that helps you choose

- where you want to live



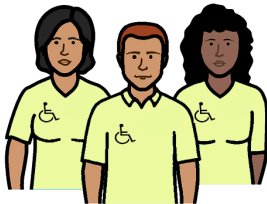
- who you want to live with.



Some young people with disability who **cannot** get **Specialist Disability Accommodation** need home and living supports from the NDIS.

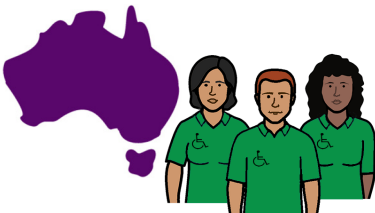


Specialist Disability Accommodation is housing to help people with very high support needs do everyday things. For example, feed yourself.

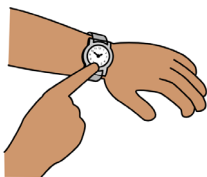


Some people on the NDIS **cannot** get services because

- there are **not** enough disability workers



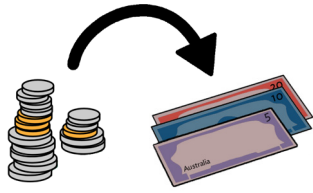
- disability workers look for work in other areas



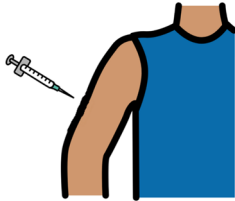
- it takes a lot of time to do disability worker checks



- they live far away from big cities, where most NDIS services are.



Some people in the disability community say that NDIS participants pay more for services than people who are **not** part of the NDIS.

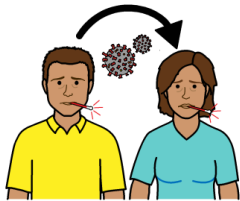


Some people in the disability community are worried that **not** enough people with disability have had their **coronavirus vaccination**.

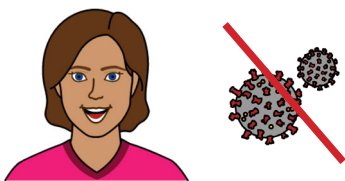


Coronavirus

- can make people very sick



- is spread when you are close to someone else.



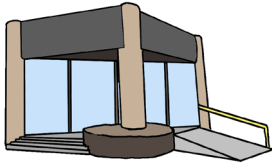
A vaccination is medicine to

- protect you from a virus

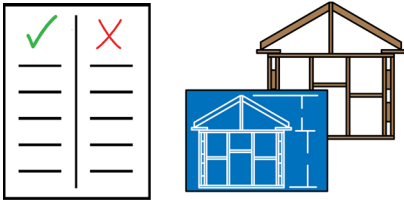
- help you to **not** get sick.



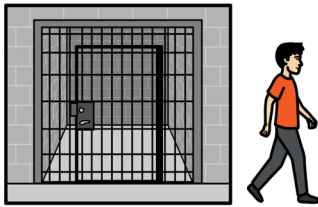
When you get the coronavirus vaccine it can help keep you and the community safe.



Some states in Australia will **not** use **minimum accessibility standards** for new buildings.



Minimum accessibility standards means the rules about how to make a new building so everyone can use it.



Some people with disability who are in jail need to know how the NDIS and **Justice Liaison Officers** can help them when they leave jail.



Justice Liaison Officers

- coordinate support for NDIS participants in youth and adult justice systems



- connect with workers in state and territory justice systems.

NDIA Payment Strategy



The NDIA told us about their **Payment Strategy**.



The Payment Strategy is the new way the NDIA wants to process claims and make payments.

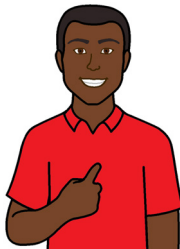


Council wants to work with the NDIA on the Payment Strategy.

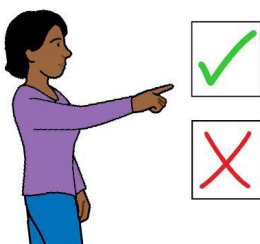


Council said the NDIA should make sure the Payment Strategy

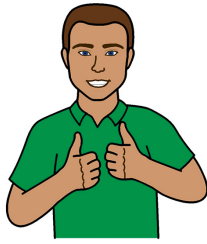
- uses clear and plain English and payments are easy to understand



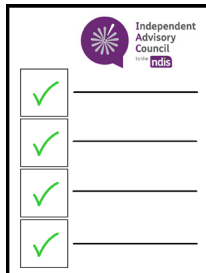
- has clear information about self-management



- gives participants flexibility and choice and control to decide how they spend their plans.

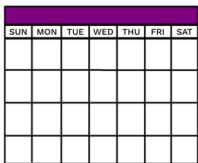


Council said the NDIA should also make sure the Payment Strategy works for people with intellectual disability.



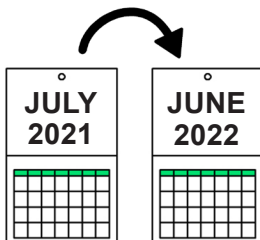
Other Council work

The Council is doing work to finish its **work plan**.



Our work plan says

- what we will do in the next 12 months to make the NDIS better for the people who use it
- what work will be done from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.



More information



The next meeting is on **23 August 2021**.

For more information contact the
Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS.



Website www.ndis-iac.com.au



Email advisorycouncil@ndis.gov.au

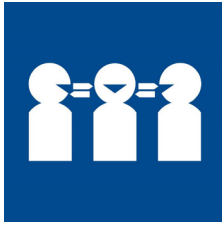


Call 1800 800 110

For more information about advice the Council
has given go to our website.



www.ndis-iac.com.au/advice



If you need help with English

Telephone Interpreting Service.

Call 131 450



If you need help to speak or listen

Use the National Relay Service.

nrschat.nrscall.gov.au/nrs/internetrelay

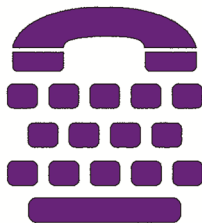
Call 1300 555 727



Independent
Advisory
Council
to the
ndis



Give the relay officer the phone number you want to call.



TTY

Call 1800 555 677



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

Scope (Aust) Ltd. created this Easy English document in August 2021 using Picture Communication Symbols. PCS is a trademark of Tobii Dynavox, LLC. All rights reserved. Used with permission. This document must not be sold to third parties. The images must not be reused without permission. For more information about the images, contact Scope on 1300 472 673 or visit www.scopeaust.org.au