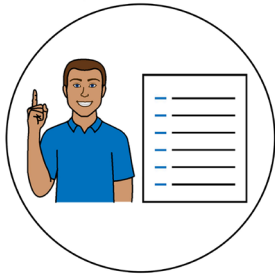


# Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS

Meeting Bulletin 26 May 2022



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.

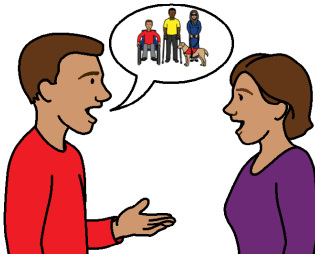


## About this book

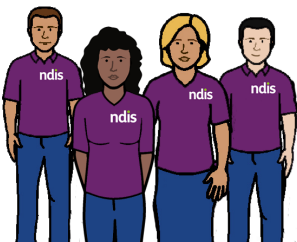


The **Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS** wrote this book.

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 26 May 2022.

## Who was at the meeting?



The meeting was run by Leah Van Poppel who is the Council's Principal Member and NDIA Board member.



11 Council members and 1 expert adviser were at the meeting.



Other people at the meeting were

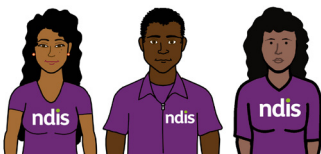
- Gavin Burner who is a member of the Intellectual Disability Reference Group



- Dr Denis Napthine AO who is the NDIA Board Chairman



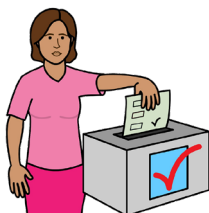
- Martin Hoffman who is the Chief Executive Officer or CEO of the NDIA



- NDIA managers.

## What happened at the meeting?

### Update from the Principal Member



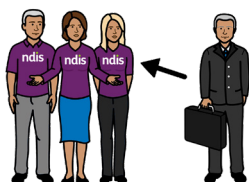
The election has happened and

- there is a new Australian government



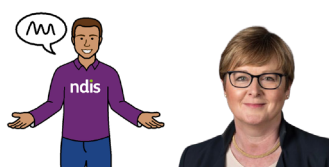
- there will be a new **Minister for the NDIS**.

Minister for the NDIS means the person in the government who is in charge of the NDIS.



Council

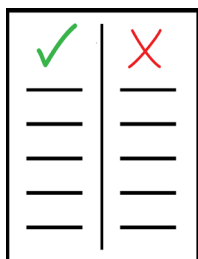
- will invite the new Minister for the NDIS to a meeting soon



- thanked the last Minister for the NDIS  
Linda Reynolds for her support.

## Update from the NDIA Board Chairman and the CEO

The NDIA Board Chairman said the NDIA Board will support the new government's **policy** for people with disability.



A policy is plans and rules for how to do things.



The Chairman said the Board will keep working for

- people with disability



- families and carers



- providers and workers.



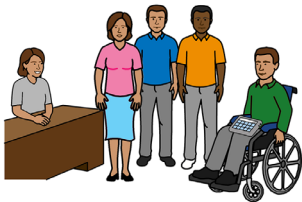
To make things better for people with disability the NDIA CEO met with different organisations and communities.

## Update on co-design work



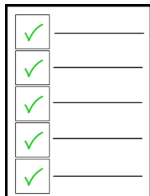
The NDIA is doing work to **co-design** 4 policies.

Co-design means to work together to reach a goal.



Each co-design policy project has a **steering committee** which includes

- people from disability and carer organisations
- Council members.



Steering committees make sure projects happen properly.



The steering committees have had good meetings in April and May.

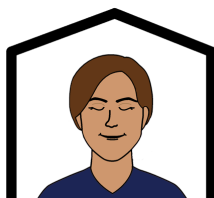


George Taleporos is on the steering committee for the co-design project about ways the NDIS can keep participants safe.

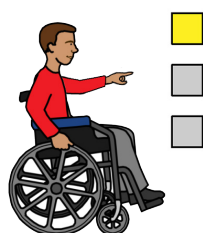


George said the co-design project should

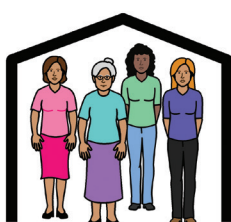
- be done carefully



- help people feel safe to say what has happened to them

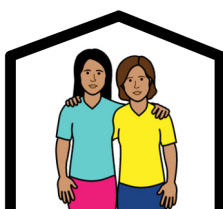


- think about ways people can decide on supports for themselves, even if things might not work.



Council members said the project should look at

- women's safety



- how friends might help keep someone safe



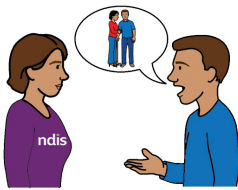
- past Council advice about choice and control.





Council members also said the project should look at ways to talk with people that do **not** make them feel worse about what has happened to them.

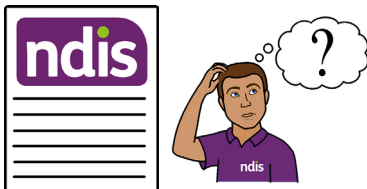
## What Council has heard about the NDIS



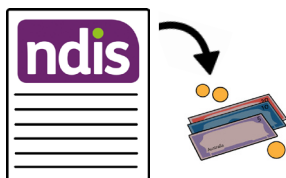
Council talked about what people with disability have told them about the NDIS.



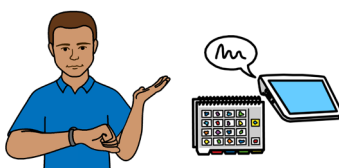
Some members said they still hear a lot of the same problems they reported at the last meeting.



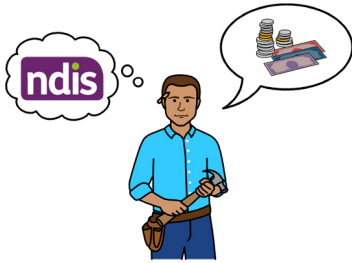
Some people say the NDIS does reviews when it did **not** plan with the participant first.



Some people with bigger plans say the NDIA is taking money out of their plans.



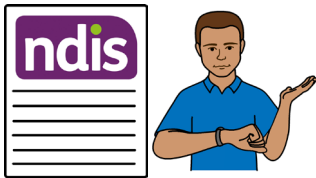
People wait a long time for the NDIA to approve assistive technology supports.



Some builders say home repairs will cost more money if they know someone is a NDIS participant.



Some people wait for home and living supports in places that are **not** safe for them.



Some people with home and living supports say

- they must wait a long time for a plan review
- the NDIA approves a plan and then takes away supports for
  - **Specialist Disability Accommodation**
  - **Supported Independent Living.**



Specialist Disability Accommodation is housing to help people with very high support needs.

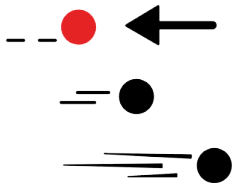


Supported Independent Living means help with day to day tasks around your home so you can be independent.



Some people with supports for Specialist Disability Accommodation say

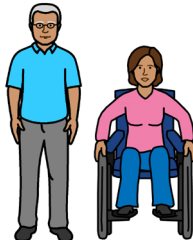
- they are scared to report when their provider does the wrong thing



- NDIA service bookings are slow for providers

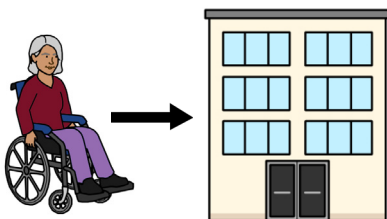


- providers might **not** follow the law about giving people choices of providers for supports.



Older people in the community

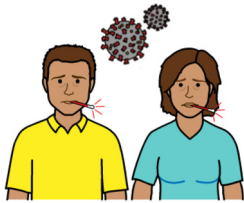
- worry about their child because their home and living supports change



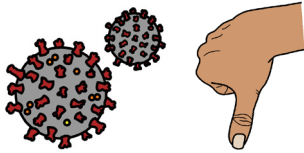
- think NDIS participants who are over 65 years old must move into aged care.



Members want to make sure governments do what they say they will.



Some people with disability can **not** get supports because workers have coronavirus.



If more workers get sick the problem might get worse.

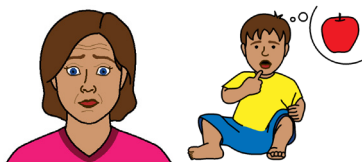


Some families

- think that lots of one on one support is best for their child, but group support might be better



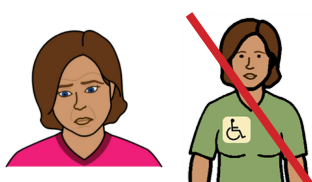
- can **not** find doctors or psychologists for their child



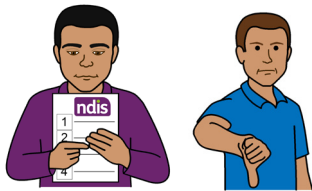
- worry about their child's development if they wait a long time for supports



- say taking plan management out of a child's plan causes stress.



Some people are **not** happy that an organisation that gives supported employment will shut.

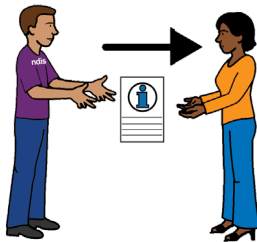


People with intellectual disability have problems with

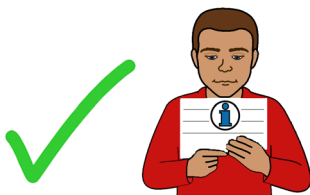
- how planners make plans



- what planners and local area coordinators know about supports in their community.



The NDIA should give more information about its work on longer plans and less reviews.

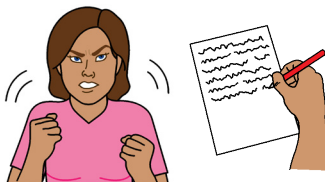


Participants want a draft copy of their plan that is easy to understand.



Some people

- do **not** know how to manage their NDIS money



- say the appeal process is hard



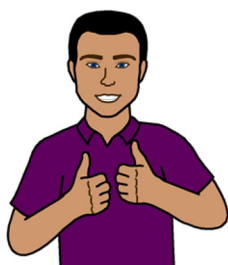
- who do **not** speak English can **not** understand information about the NDIS.

## NDIS Quality and Safeguards commission



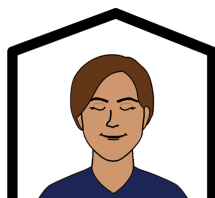
NDIS Quality  
and Safeguards  
Commission

The **NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission** is making its work plan for the next 5 years.

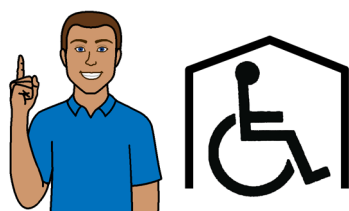


The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission or NDIS Commission helps

- make services better

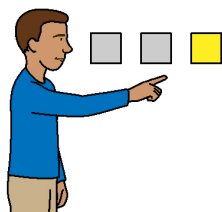


- keep NDIS participants safe.



Council wants the work plan to support people with disability to

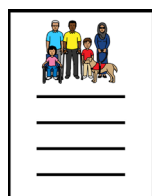
- understand what good services are



- make choices for themselves

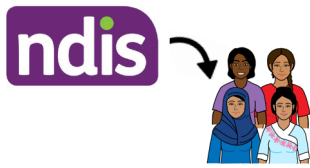


- get training to understand their rights.



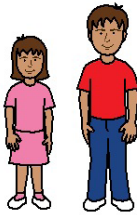
Council wants the work plan to include children.

## Update on NDIS reporting



Members said NDIA **quarterly** reports should

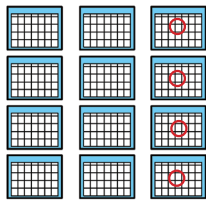
- say how many women leave the NDIS



- include the size of NDIS plans for children under 7 years old



- have information about employment.



Quarterly means 4 times each year.

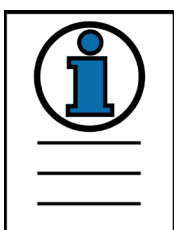


Members said the report about Council's advice should have better information on

- how recommendations are going



- Council advice about early intervention.



Members want to work with the NDIA to make better reports about Council's advice.

## More information

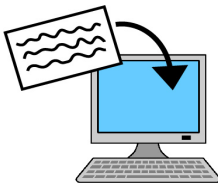


The next meeting is on **15 June 2022**.

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



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



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



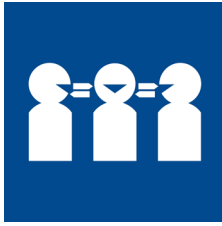
Call 1800 800 110



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

[ndis-iac.com.au/advice](https://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](https://nrschat.nrscall.gov.au/nrs/internetrelay)

Call 1300 555 727



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