# Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS

# Home and Living Reference Group Meeting Bulletin from 13 May 2021

Easy Read 2021  
This is the text-only version of the Easy Read document.

This book has some hard words.

Hard words will be marked with a star on both sides of the word.

We will write what the hard word means.

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 about what happened at the Home and Living \*Reference Group\* meeting.

Reference Groups are a group of people that know a lot   
about something.

Reference Groups help

* the Council do its work
* make our advice better.

This group gives advice about ways the NDIS can help people get the supports they need

* in their homes
* to live independently
* to choose where and who they live with
* to be included in their community.

This book tells you what happened at our meeting on 13 May 2021.

The Reference Group meets 2 times each year.

# Who was at the meeting?

There are 2 \*Chairs\* of the Reference Group

* Robyn Kruk

and

* Leighton Jay.

A Chair means someone who can run the meeting.

Also at the meeting were

* Reference Group members

and

* NDIA managers.

The Reference Group talked about things the NDIA is working on.

The Reference Group Chairs and NDIA managers spoke at the   
meeting to

* tell the us about the work they do

and

* ask for our feedback.

# What happened at the meeting?

Update from the Reference Group Chairs

The Reference Group will help Council with its advice and

* tell us what happens in their communities
* help Council and the NDIA achieve their goals
* find ways to make the NDIS fair for everyone.

The Reference Group wants to make sure that people with   
disability have

* a home to live in

and

* the right supports.

Update from Reference Group members

Reference Group members talked about what is happening in   
their communities.

It is hard for people with disability to find homes they can live in   
for a long time.

People living in \*Supported Independent Living\* and   
\*Specialist Disability Accommodation\* say they do **not** have the supports they need.

For example, help to make their own decision about their life.

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

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

People that build Specialist Disability Accommodation homes   
do **not** think about

* what participants need in their homes to help them get the   
  right supports

or

* where participants need homes.

For example, close to school or work.

People want \*Individualised Living Options\* to

* last as long as possible
* help people understand the supports they can get when they move out of hospital or jail.

Individualised Living Options means NDIS money that helps you choose

* where you want to live
* who you want to live with.

Some people need more information on how the NDIS makes decisions about funding.

Some people have to keep telling the NDIS why they need supports in their home.

NDIA’s plan for home and living

The NDIA is working on

* a \*Home and Living consultation report\*
  + this is a report on home and living supports the public can give feedback on

and

* Individualised Living Options \*operational guidelines\*
  + this is a rule book the NDIA will use to explain individualised living options.

Reference Group members said the NDIA needs to

* make the Home and Living consultation report easier   
  to understand
* include all people with disability
* understand that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have different ideas about what home is
* think about ways Individualised Living Options can work   
  into the future
* ask people with disability for their ideas about what needs to be included in communications from the NDIA.

Reference Group plan

The Reference Group will make a plan with the most important work it will do over the next 2 years to

* fix the issues with home and living supports in the NDIS

and

* make sure people with disability have
  + a home
  + the supports they need to live at home.

The Reference Group will tell everyone about its plan soon.

# More information

The next meeting will happen later this year.

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 the Council Reference Groups go to   
our website.

[www.ndis-iac.com.au/referencegroups](http://www.ndis-iac.com.au/referencegroups)

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

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

Call 1300 555 727

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

TTY.

Call 1800 555 677

# Acknowledgements

Scope’s Communication and Inclusion Resource Centre wrote  
the Easy English in July 2021, [www.scopeaust.org.au](http://www.scopeaust.org.au).  
To see the original contact the Independent Advisory Council to   
the NDIS.