

Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS

Home and Living Reference Group

Meeting Bulletin 5 October 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

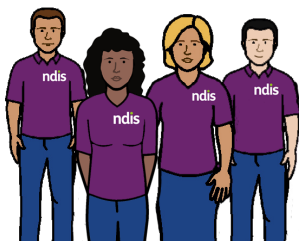


The **Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS** wrote this book.

We will call it the Council.



The Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS tells the **National Disability Insurance Agency** what they think about how the NDIS is managed.



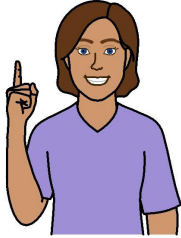
The National Disability Insurance Agency or NDIA manages the **National Disability Insurance Scheme**.



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 groups 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

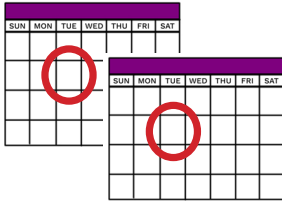


- in their homes
- to live independently



- to choose where and who they live with
- to be included in their community.

This book tells you what happened at our meeting on 5 October 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.

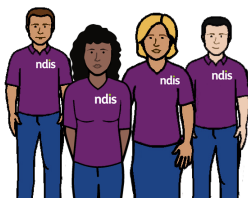
A Chair means someone who can run the meeting.



Also at the meeting were

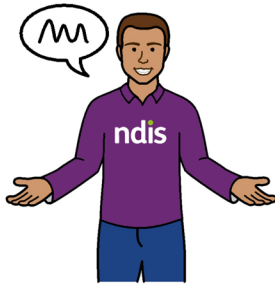
- Reference Group members

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



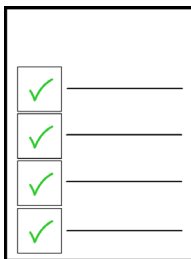
- ask for our feedback.

What happened at the meeting?

Update from Reference Group Chairs



Council and the Reference Group has done a lot of work since they last met.



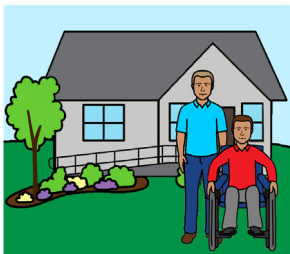
The Reference Group decided what work it will do over the next 2 years.



The Reference Group wants to

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

and



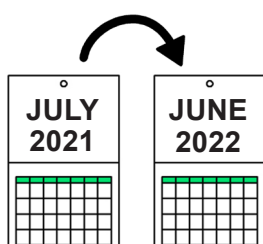
- make sure people with disability have
 - a home
 - the supports they need to live at home.

Work the Reference Group does will help Council's **work plan** happen.



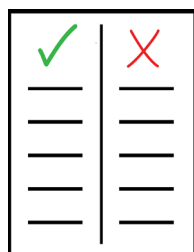
Our work plan says

- what we will do this year to make the NDIS better for the people who use it



- what work will be done from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.

Council made a Home and Living **policy sub group**.



A policy is a plan and rules for how we should do things.



A sub group is a small group of people who help Council and the Reference Group do its work.

The sub group includes people from Council and the Reference Group.



The sub group will **co-design** work with the NDIA.

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

For example, people who run services work with people who use the services to plan the services.

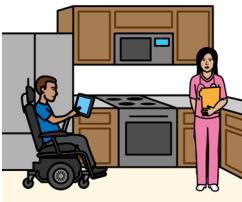


The Home and Living policy will make it easier to choose

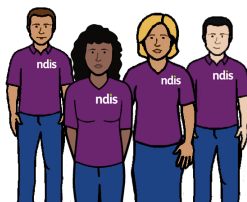
- where you live



- who you live with



- who supports you.



The Reference Group met with

- NDIA staff to learn how they make decisions about home and living supports



- the Department of Social Services to talk about changes to NDIS laws.

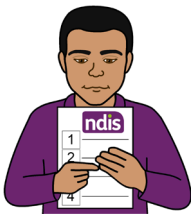


The NDIA has a Support for Decision Making **consultation report**.

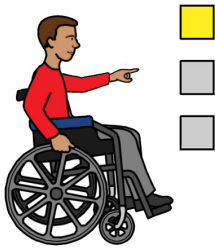


A consultation report

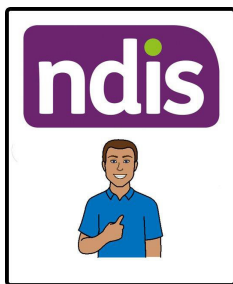
- lets you tell the NDIA what they can do better



- will help the NDIA write a policy.



The consultation report said people with disability should be able to make their own decisions.



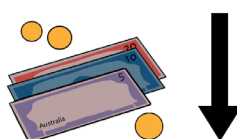
The decisions could be about

- your life
- your NDIS plan.

Update from Reference Group members



Reference Group members talked about what happens in their communities.



Some people have less money for supports in their NDIS plans.



People have told us they have less supports for

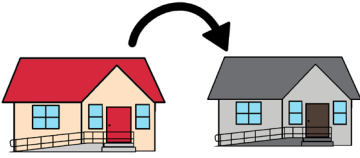
- **Specialist Disability Accommodation**
 - housing to help people with very high support needs do everyday things



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

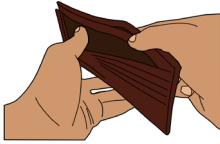


- **Individualised Living Options**
 - NDIS money that helps you choose where you want to live and who you want to live with.



Some people that have less supports in their plans

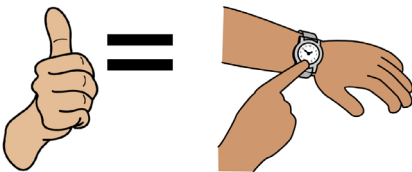
- have to move to a home they do **not** want to live in.
For example, a group home.



- have no more NDIS money and live in an unsafe place.



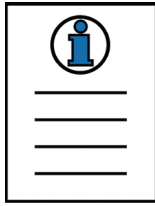
These people want to know how the NDIS makes decisions about their plans.



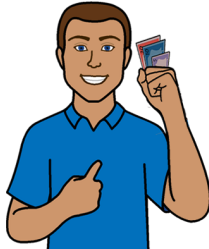
They want the NDIS to make fair and quick decisions about plans.



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



Some people with a NDIS plan think there should be more information about **self management**.



Self management means you look after your own NDIS money.



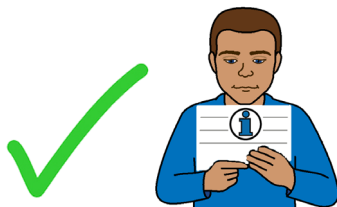
The NDIA should think about

- what care supports people with disability will need in the future.

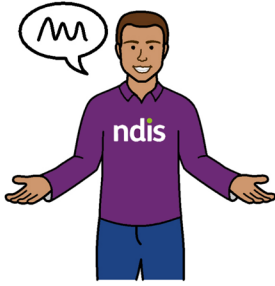
For example, people who are getting older.



- how Supported Independent Living helps people with disability for the rest of their life.

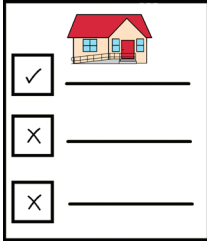


NDIA planners need to give participants clear and correct information.



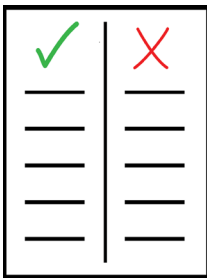
NDIA's plan for home and living

The NDIA talked about its work on home and living.



NDIA work includes

- the Home and Living policy



- changes to **operational guidelines**.

Operational guidelines are the rules used to make decisions under the NDIS.

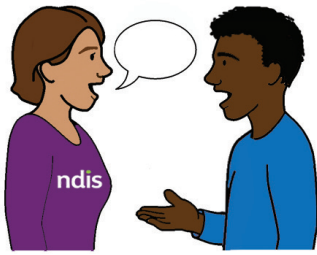


Reference Group members said the NDIA needs to help people with disability understand the

- home and living supports they can use



- ways they can live on their own.



Reference Group members said the NDIA should make sure they tell participants how their home and living supports work together.

For example, Supported Independent Living and Individualised Living Options.



Reference Group members said the NDIA should show how it makes decisions about home and living supports.



Reference Group members want to help the NDIA with its Home and Living **projects**.

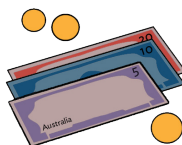


The projects show different ways to

- give home and living options to participants

and

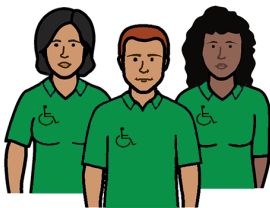
- give money for home and living in NDIS plans.



NDIA's work with the community on home and living



The NDIA wants to work better together with the disability community on home and living.



The NDIA is doing work with **Disability Representative Organisations** and Council about

- the best ways to work well together

- work they want to do together.

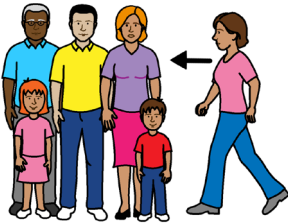


Disability Representative Organisations support people with disability and fight for their rights.



Reference Group members said

- they want to help the NDIA work with the disability community



- the NDIA should work in an **inclusive** way.

Inclusive means everyone can take part and understand.

More information



The next meeting will happen in 2022.

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

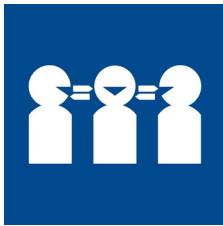
For more information about advice the Council
has given go to our website.



www.ndis-iac.com.au/advice



To read about the last Home and Living Reference Group meeting go to www.ndis-iac.com.au/s/Bulletin-Home-and-Living-Reference-Group-Easy-Read-Web.pdf



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