

Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS

Meeting Bulletin 15 June 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

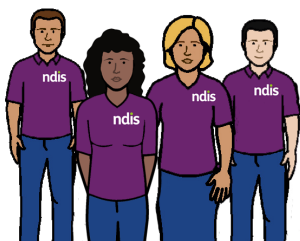


The **Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS** wrote this book.

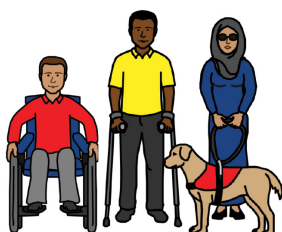
We will call it the Council.



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 15 June 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

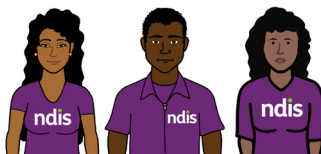
- Gavin Burner who is a member of the Intellectual Disability Reference Group



- Meredith Allan who is a NDIA Board Member



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



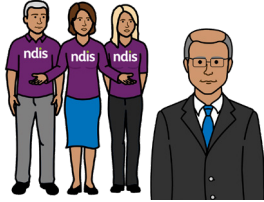
- NDIA managers.

What happened at the meeting?

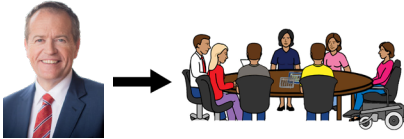


Update from the Principal Member

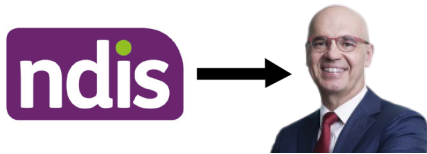
Bill Shorten is the new **Minister for the NDIS**.



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



Council will invite Bill Shorten to a meeting soon.



The CEO Martin Hoffman will leave the NDIA.



Council said

- thank you to Martin Hoffman for his support



- Martin Hoffman worked hard to tell the NDIA what Council think.

Update from the NDIA Board and the CEO



Meredith Allan met with NDIS providers to learn about their services.



The CEO thanked Council members who sent him messages of support.



Lisa Studdert will be the **acting** CEO.

Acting means you do the job for a short time.



The new government will **review** the NDIS.

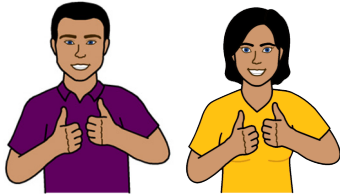
Review means to check if something works well.



The CEO met with the Minister for the NDIA to talk about the review and other work.



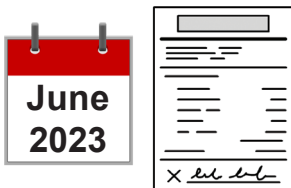
Council can tell the NDIA Board what it thinks about the review of the NDIS.



The NDIA and governments should make sure **mainstream and community supports** and the NDIS work well together.



Mainstream and community supports are supports you can get from other government services. For example, health or education.



By June 2023 the NDIA will make **contracts** with community organisations to help deliver the NDIS.



A contract is a legal agreement.

What Council has heard about the NDIS

The community is happy with the NDIA work on **co-design**.



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



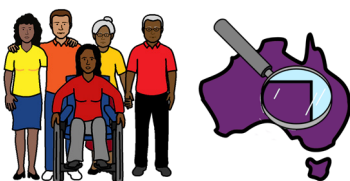
Some participants with spinal disorders are very happy with the NDIS.

For example they get

- more ways to spend their funds
- more choice and control.



Members want the NDIA to think about asking a person with disability to talk to the public and media about NDIS news.

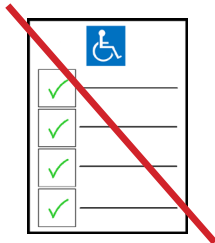


Big communities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people can **not** get disability services because they are far from cities.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

- want supports in their communities from health workers they trust



- can **not** find specialists to give proof about their disability so they can join NDIS.



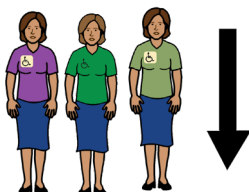
Some people say they can **not** get

- health workers or therapists

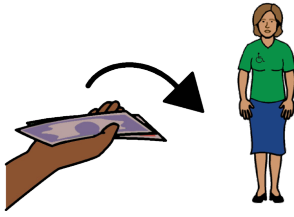
- disability workers.



Some therapists ask participants to pay for supports they did **not** give.



When there are less workers it is hard to make sure people get good service.



People want to know if support prices will change because some costs are changing.

For example, pay for workers.



So support coordinators can give better service

- they should get more training



- the right people need to be chosen for the job.



Some people who manage their own plans need training about

- their rights



- how to manage their NDIS funds.



Some states do not have **advocacy** services to help people that have problems with the NDIS.



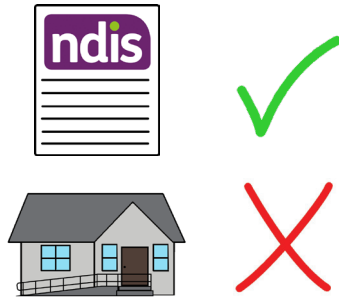
Advocacy is help to say what you want.



When a child needs specialist support it is hard for parents to get childcare and have a job.

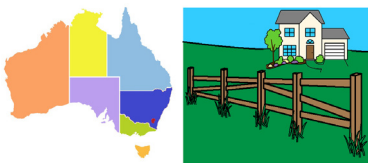


The NDIA should look at new ways to support children's development.

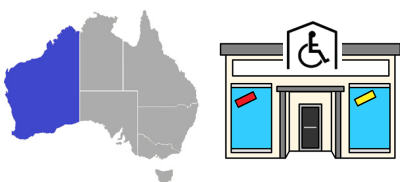


Some people say the NDIA

- approves a plan and then takes away supports for home and living
- does **not** do a good job with home and living supports.



The NDIA should work with states and territories to make more social and community housing away from big cities.



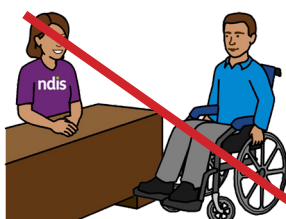
Some people worked with the Western Australian government so an organisation that gives supported employment will **not** shut.

It can take longer to approve **supported independent living** because the NDIA wants more specialist information.

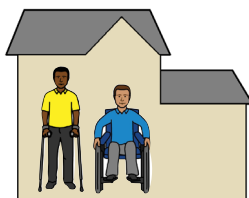


Supported independent living means help with day to day tasks around your home so you can be independent.

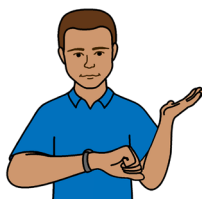
Some people with supports for **specialist disability accommodation**



- do not tell the NDIA if things change because they worry they might lose funds



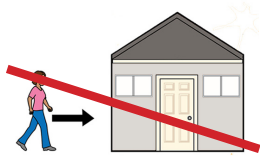
- put other people they live with at risk



- say NDIA service bookings are slow for providers.



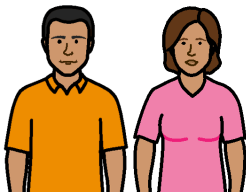
Specialist disability accommodation is housing to help people with very high support needs.



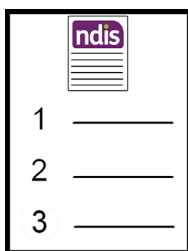
Some people who have money taken out of their plans can **not** move into specialist disability accommodation.



Some people do **not** know how to make a complaint about services.



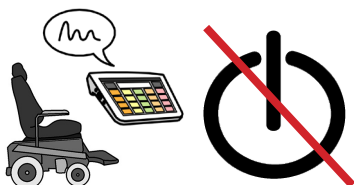
People with intellectual disability need peer support from other people with intellectual disability.



People want to get a draft of their plan so they understand what supports might be in it.



It is hard for people in the justice system to get the NDIS and help from justice liaison officers.



People who need electric equipment and communication to keep safe worry about power cuts.

Update on co-design work

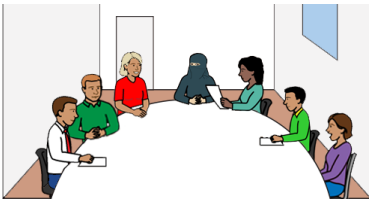


The NDIA is working to co-design 6 projects with

- people from disability and carer organisations



- Council.



Work has been done on

- listening meetings with many participants



- ways to test the co-design process



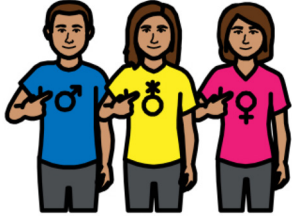
- a survey to ask the community what they think.



Disability and carer organisations will have listening meetings with under represented communities.



Council members said the NDIS should think about ways for participants to assess their own needs.



Council members said surveys should get information about

- gender
- diverse communities.



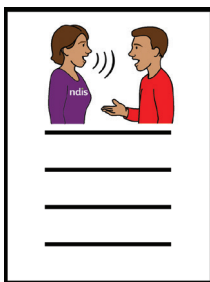
Update on law changes



The NDIA is doing work on changes to the NDIS law that happen on 1 July.

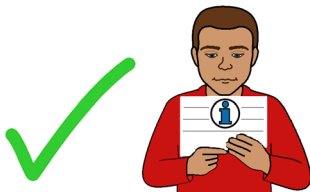


Council said they want to work with the NDIA.

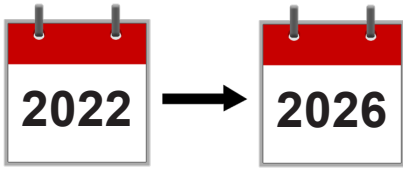


Council said the NDIA should make

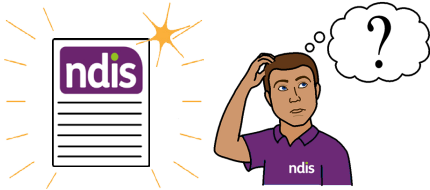
- a plan for how to tell people about the changes
- information about the changes that is easy to understand.



Update on the NDIA corporate plan



The NDIA is making its **corporate plan** which says what work it will do from 2022 to 2026.



Council members said the corporate plan should talk about what the NDIA wants the NDIS to do.

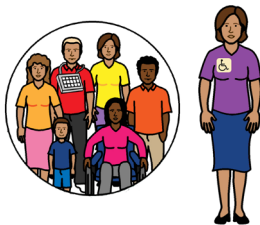


Council members said the plan should look at

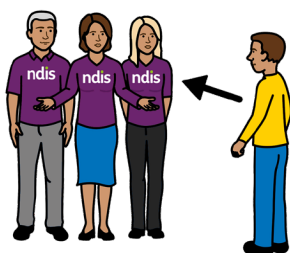
- government supports that make it hard to get jobs
 - for example, the disability support pension



- draft plan summaries to help people who live away from cities

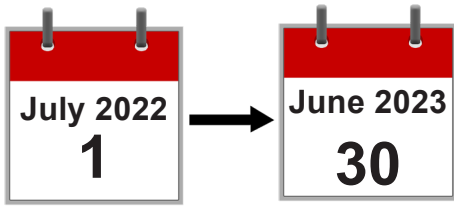


- what the community and workers need



- how the NDIA works with mainstream supports.

Update on the Council work plan

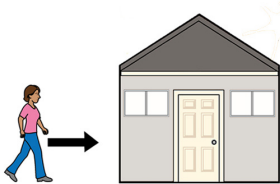


Council is making its work plan for 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 .

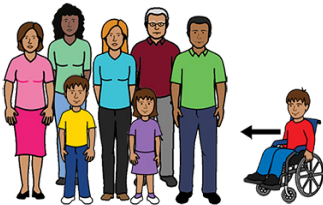


Members said the work plan should include

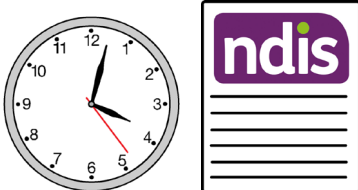
- NDIA work on co-design



- advice on home and living

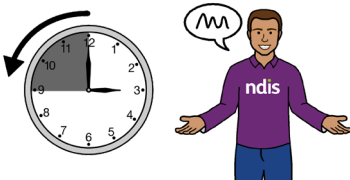


- advice about ways to make communities that include everyone.



Members want to know

- if Council has time to do what is in the plan



- about NDIA work on Council's past advice.



Council should look at ways to give advice to the new government and other organisations.



More information

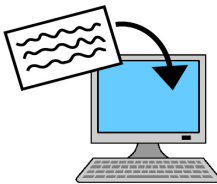
The next meeting is on **27 July 2022**.



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

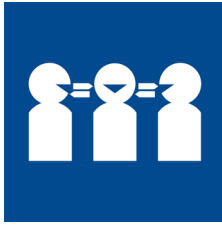


Call 1800 800 110



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

Call 1300 555 727



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



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