

# Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS

## Meeting Bulletin 23 August 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

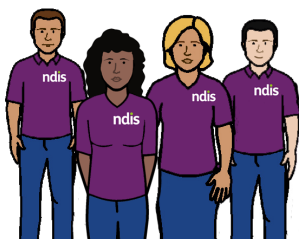


The **Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS** wrote this book.

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 23 August 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.



Leah Van Poppel is the Council's Deputy Chair.

She helped the Principal Member run the meeting.

The other people at the meeting were

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



- 12 Council members

- 1 expert adviser



- NDIA managers.

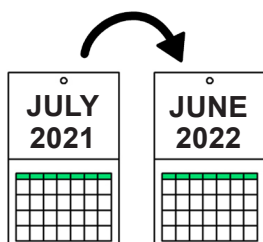
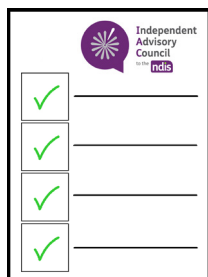
## What happened at the meeting?

### Updates from the Principal Member

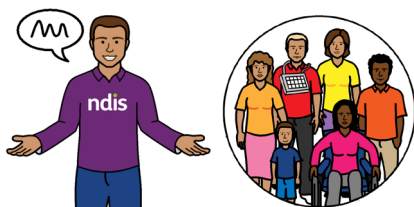
The Council has finished its **work plan**.

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.



The NDIS Board will approve the work plan before we give everyone the information.



The Principal Member asked **Disability Representative Organisations** about the best ways for the NDIA to work with the disability community.



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

## Updates from the NDIA CEO

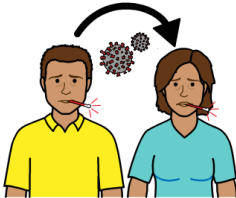


We know **coronavirus** affects many people around Australia.



Coronavirus

- can make people very sick



- is spread when you are close to someone else.



The NDIA is doing work to help participants and providers get the supports and health care they need during the coronavirus **pandemic**.



A pandemic means coronavirus affects a lot of people all over the world.

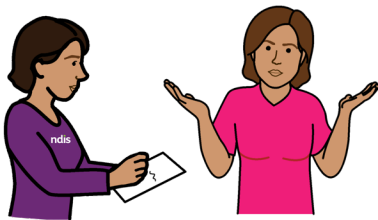


The NDIA wants to keep doing work with the disability community to learn about the best ways they can work together in the future.

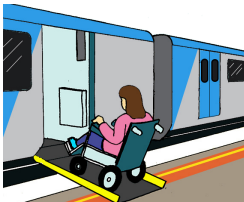
## Problems Council has heard about



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



Some people with disability want to know how the NDIA will assess their disability now that **independent assessments** will **not** be used.



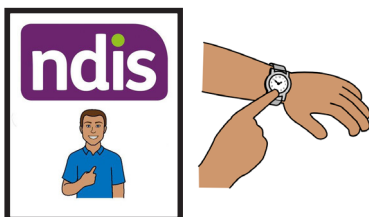
Independent assessments were the way the NDIA wanted to work out

- how your disability affects your life

and



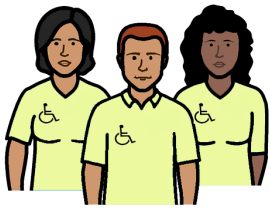
- what supports you need from the NDIS.



Some disability communities are worried that NDIS plans take too long to get approved.



Some people who manage their own NDIS plan are worried about how the new NDIS mobile app will affect them.



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

- there are **not** enough disability workers, including disability workers from migrant backgrounds



- they live in areas where there are **not** enough disability services or providers



- the coronavirus pandemic makes it harder to get services.



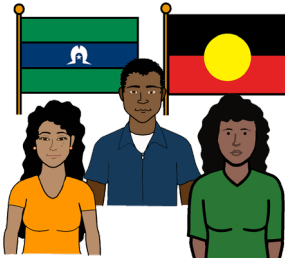


Some people find it hard to get the supports they need because of coronavirus.



This includes

- parents with young children



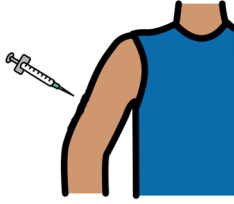
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people



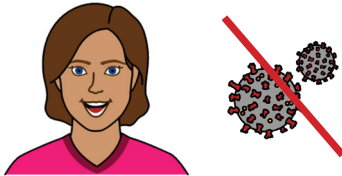
- communities with people from different cultures and who speak languages other than English



- people who live far away from big cities where most NDIS services are.



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



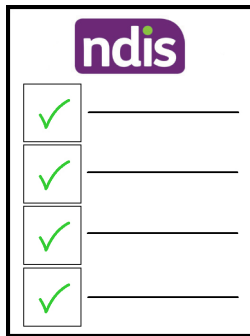
A vaccination is medicine to

- protect you from a virus
  
- help you to **not** get sick.



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

## Update on NDIA Psychosocial Disability Recovery Framework



The NDIA told us about its

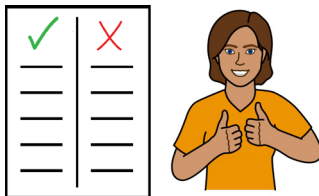
### **Psychosocial Disability Recovery Framework.**

The Psychosocial Disability Recovery

Framework is rules to make sure people with

### **psychosocial disability**

- get the best support services



- can manage their mental health.



Psychosocial disability affects

- how you think and feel



- your mental health.

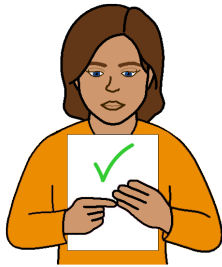


Council wants to help make the Psychosocial Disability Recovery Framework happen.



Council said that the Psychosocial Disability Recovery Framework should

- include people who have 2 or more disabilities



- use clear and simple language



- help people who have experienced **trauma**
  - trauma means something has happened to you that made you frightened or upset



- help people with psychosocial disability to
  - do more of the things they want to do
  - learn skills to manage their disability



- know who is the right person to go to when they need something.

## Updates from the Deputy Chair

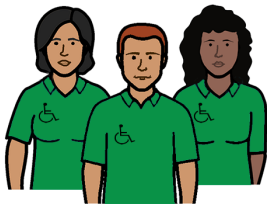


Council and the NDIA will work together to agree on the best ways for the NDIA to work with the disability community.



They want to make some rules about how the NDIA will work together with other

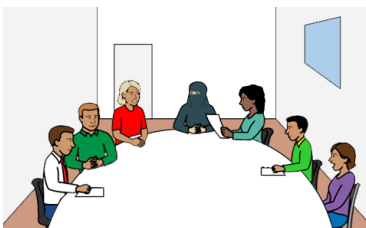
- groups who use the NDIS



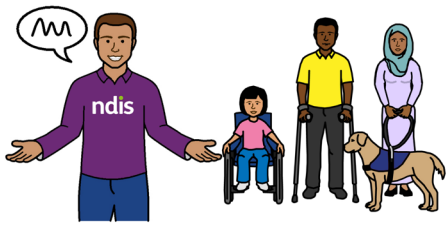
- organisations that deliver disability services



- disability experts.



Council and the NDIA will meet with members of Disability Representative Organisations to help work out the rules.



The NDIA will make a plan about ways it can

- work better with the disability community



- partner with the community on NDIA projects that affect them



- manage its partnership with the community.

## More information



The next meeting is on **22 September 2021**.

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



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



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

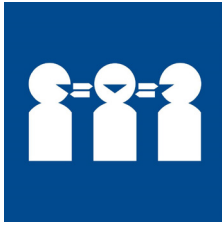


Call 1800 800 110

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



[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](https://nrschat.nrscall.gov.au/nrs/internetrelay)

Call 1300 555 727



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