

# Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS

Meeting Bulletin 22 June 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

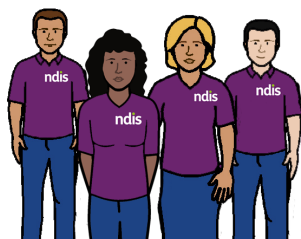


The **Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS** wrote this book.

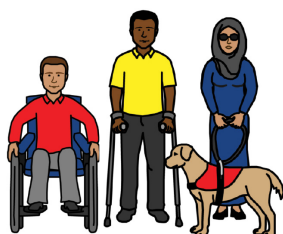
We will call it the Council.



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 22 June 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.



The other people at the meeting were

- Dr Helen Nugent who is the Chair of the NDIA Board



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



- 11 Council members


- 1 expert adviser



- NDIA managers.

# What happened at the meeting?

## Updates from the Principal Member



1 \_\_\_\_\_  
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The Council is working on **formal advice** about **Scheme reforms**.



Formal advice means we tell the NDIA what we think about how they manage the NDIS.



We also give formal advice to the Minister for the NDIS.

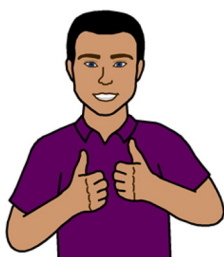


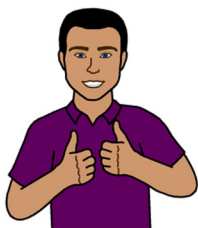
Formal advice helps the NDIA learn about

- problems that people with disability might have

and

- ways the NDIA can help fix the problems.





Scheme reforms are important changes the NDIA will do to

- make the NDIS better for everyone

and



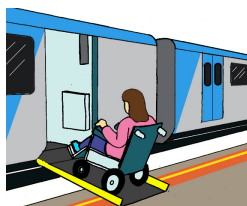
- change NDIS laws.

Scheme reforms include **Independent Assessments**.

Independent Assessments are the new way the NDIA will work out

- how your disability affects your life

and



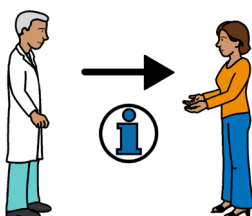
- what supports you need from the NDIS.



The assessments are independent because they are done by someone who

- does **not** already know you

and



- is **not** the healthcare professional you usually see.



## Updates on formal advice on Scheme reforms

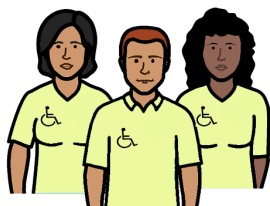


The Council was asked to do some work on Scheme reforms by the

- Minister for the NDIS



- NDIA Board.



The Council talked about what the formal advice should include in meetings with

- disability representative organisations



- states and territory disability groups.

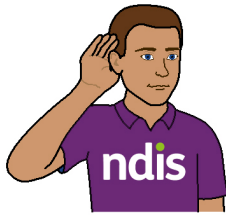


Council said the meetings with states and territories

- had good talks about Scheme reforms



- could include more people with disability.



Council said the meetings with states and territories showed that the NDIA

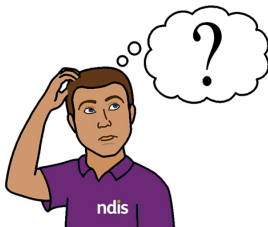
- is listening to the disability community



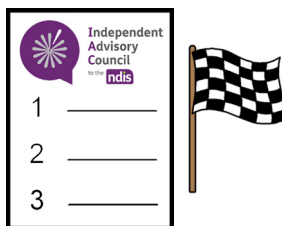
- wants to work with the community to improve trust.

## Next steps for formal advice on Scheme reforms

When the meetings on Scheme reforms finish the Council will



- think about all the ideas from the talks



- finish its formal advice.

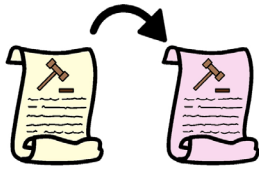


Council will give its formal advice on Scheme reforms to the NDIA Board and Minister for the NDIS in early July.





The advice will be talked about at the **Disability Reform Ministers' meeting.**

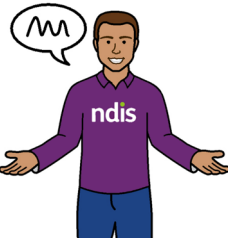


The Disability Reform Ministers' meeting is where all Governments that manage policies for disability talk about

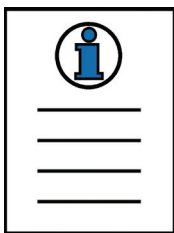
- changes to policy



- how Governments will make changes happen



- how the NDIS is going.



Council will give the public information about what its advice says.

## Updates from the NDIA Board Chair and CEO



The NDIA Board Chair and CEO thanked Council for working hard on the meetings and advice.



The NDIA will give the public more information on

- why the NDIS needs enough money to run now and in the future
- how the Independent Assessments work
- finding better ways to work out money for participant plans.



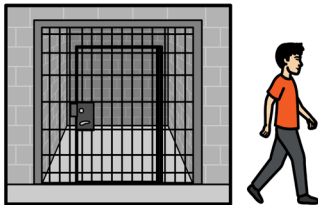
## Problems Council has heard about



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



Some people with disability do **not** have enough supports to help make decisions about their life.



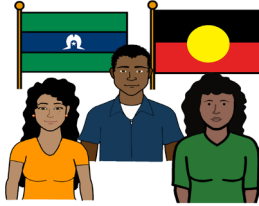
Some people with disability who are in jail need to know how the NDIS can help them when they leave jail.



Some people with disability wait a long time to get their NDIS plan.



Some people with disability are worried about the end of the **National Community Connector Program**.



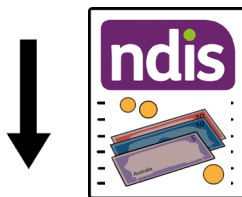
The National Community Connector Program helps get services and supports to

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- different cultures that speak languages other than English or do **not** speak English.



Some people on the NDIS

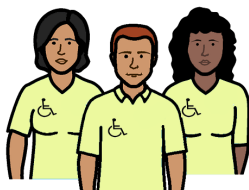
- **cannot** find the right homes to live in by themselves



- get **less** money after their plan review

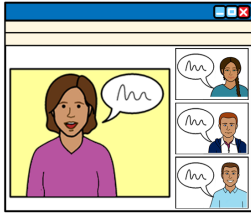


- **cannot** get services where they live



- **cannot** get services because there is **not** enough disability workers.

We know that

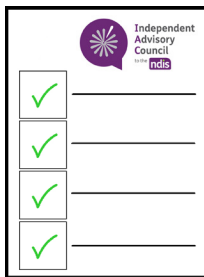


- there needs to be more accessible communications for people with disability. For example, plain English, Easy Read or videos.



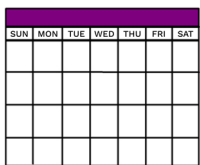
- organisations that help children with disability need help from the NDIS.

## Other Council work

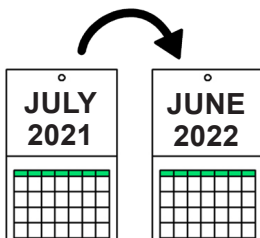


The Council is doing work on its **work plan**.

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.

## More information



The next meeting is on **27 July 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)

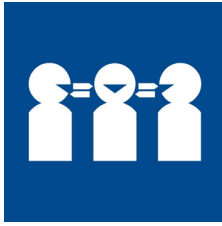


Call 1800 800 110

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)

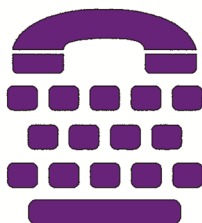
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