

ndis

# Participant Service Improvement Plan 2022-23

Improving how the NDIS works to serve participants



# Service Improvement Plan 2022-23

We are pleased to introduce our refreshed Participant Service Improvement Plan (SIP) 2022-2023.

After SIP 2020-2021 came to a close in December 2021, we reviewed our SIP commitments to ensure they closely reflected improvements that participants want to see. The refreshed SIP sets out what the Agency will do over the next two years to deliver a Scheme that meets participant expectations by making practical changes to how we work.

The NDIA and partners will work to deliver on 51 commitments across 9 improvement areas over the next two years. The refreshed SIP includes new and refined commitments representing our ongoing commitment to participants, their families and carers and the disability community.

The NDIA remains committed to making improvements that are important to participants.



# Our commitments to you



## Communicating with us

- You will have a **current contact** name for all your interactions with us
- We will put the **name** of a real person on our letters to you
- You will be able to use **online forms and services** where you want to
- You will be able to **track** where your application or inquiry is up to **online**
- **The website and portal** will be clearer and easier to use
- **The call centre** will give the right information the first time where possible.



## Getting information from us

- Our decision letters will have **reasons** for why we have decided something in plain English
- You will be able to **access your personal data and plan details** without having to ask through a Freedom of Information (FOI) request
- We will have better **guidelines and procedures** so there is consistency in how we make decisions; and we will make more of these **public**
- Our guidelines will come with **plain English descriptions** and more **examples**
- Our content and documents will use **consistent terms and definitions** with **less jargon**
- We will be clearer on what **reasonable and necessary** supports means, with case studies and examples
- We will improve access to information about how our processes work, what to expect and what you need to do.



## Gaining access to the NDIS

- You will be able to apply to the NDIS in the way you want, including using an **online form**
- We will make sure you are connected to other mainstream and community supports and services as well, even if you don't gain access to the Scheme.



## Making your plan

- We will support you, if you want, to build **goals** in your plan that are clearly defined, realistic and attainable
- If you want, you will be able to have a **face-to-face meeting** with the person who makes a decision about your plan supports and funding
- We will also support more **video-conference** planning meetings
- We are working to build more **do-it-yourself online plan tools**.



## Using your plan

- We will give you more support **for using your plan**, for finding both disability services and mainstream supports
- We'll be clearer on what **support coordination services** we fund, and how it should be separate from other service providers
- Your plan will be **longer and ongoing**. It will be **reviewed** when you or we request it - for example if your circumstances change or something significant happens in your life
- We will **check-in** with you on how the plan is going, and whether an update or review is needed
- There will be a simple and quick process when you need to make **minor changes to your plan** – it won't require a full "review"
- You will be able to manage your plan more easily, using a new **NDIS mobile app**



- We'll make it easier to **self-manage** your plan, with appropriate data sharing, support and controls in place; and to change easily between self- and plan-managed
- We will work with communities in **remote and very remote areas**, and other areas lacking services, to trial new ways of **organising services** so you can more easily use your support funding.



### Payments from your plan

- Payments will be able to be made simply and directly for registered and non-registered providers of services – **no more paying first from your own cash and claiming it back**
- We will have new systems to make sure providers are paid promptly and accurately, so your support is not interrupted
- We will make it easier for you to understand how you make a successful claim from your plan.



### Parts of your plan

- You will be able to **quickly access assistive technology and home modifications** with less red tape. This includes a simpler process for requesting **complex and non-standard** assistive technology or home modifications
- We will issue new **easy-to-understand guidelines** for complex home modifications
- We will encourage **Independent Living Options** as an alternative to traditional group homes
- We will increase the **flexibility in living options** if you are eligible for Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA)
- We will process **applications** for all supports associated with housing and accommodation issues together and more quickly
- There will be a **standard form** (for all housing including SDA) and application process for SDA
- There will be a **national SDA-matching** website showing all available properties

- We will focus on your plan and goals supporting you to gain **employment** if that is what you want.



### Support for engaging with us

- We will **pro-actively check-in** with you, especially if you may be in a vulnerable situation
- We will improve the way we provide you support for **independent decision-making**
- We want to support and promote **children and young people's** voice in their own plans; while also working closely with **parents and carers**
- We will improve our direct support for you if you have **complex needs** and require **critical supports**, or are otherwise potentially vulnerable
- We will fund **specialist community connectors** (in remote, culturally and linguistically diverse, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities) to deeply understand how you want to engage with us
- There will be a **NDIS carer connect network** for aging parents of people with a disability
- Our front-line teams will have improved **cultural and disability awareness**
- **Liaison Officers**, for Health and Justice especially, will help participants interact with the NDIS in each state and territory
- We will support you if you are a **Young Person in Residential Aged Care** to live elsewhere
- We will fund **early intervention supports** for children more flexibly
- Where possible, your household will have the same NDIS contact.



### Participant Service Guarantee and Service Charter

- We will meet and try to exceed the **time standard commitments** for service levels
- We will ensure we adhere to the Participant Service Charter engagement principles in our interactions with you.



## National Disability Insurance Agency

 Telephone 1800 800 110

 Webchat [ndis.gov.au](https://ndis.gov.au)

## Follow us on our social channels



## For people who need help with English

 TIS: 131 450

## For people who are deaf or hard of hearing

 TTY: 1800 555 677

 Speak and Listen: 1800 555 727