

Dear NDIS Provider

A new national system of quality and safeguards in the NDIS

You are currently registered with the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (NDIS Commission). On 1 July 2019, the NDIS Commission will commence operating in Tasmania, Victoria, the Australian Capital Territory, Queensland, and the Northern Territory. The NDIS Commission will commence in Western Australia on 1 July 2020.

This letter is to inform you about the arrangements that will affect you as an existing provider registered with the NDIS Commission when it commences in new states and territories.

The NDIS Commission is an independent government agency that regulates the provision of supports and services to participants in the NDIS. It works to improve the quality of NDIS services and supports, prevent harm to and safeguard the rights of participants, investigate and resolve complaints relating to supports and services, and strengthen the skills and knowledge of providers and participants across Australia. It replaces the various quality and safeguards arrangements that have been in place in states and territories, creating a unified and consistent national system.

Your registration will automatically transfer on 1 July 2019

As you are already registered with the NDIS Commission, your registration in the incoming jurisdictions will automatically attach to your existing registration. You do not need to do anything before 1 July to add extra registration groups from the incoming jurisdictions to your registration with the NDIS Commission. The transitional rules transfer your existing registration from the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) to the NDIS Commission.

You will receive a new certificate of registration from the NDIS Commission by 1 July. That certificate will reflect your existing renewal date for registration and list your current registration groups and any that have transitioned from incoming jurisdictions. At the time of your registration renewal, you will need to demonstrate that your organisation and key personnel are suitable to operate in the NDIS and your organisation delivers services and supports in accordance with the new NDIS Practice Standards.

Before 21 June 2019 you should check your organisation's details and registration groups in the NDIA's provider portal to make sure the information that is transferred to the NDIS Commission is correct.

Requirements for registered providers

Your existing requirements as a registered provider with the NDIS Commission expand into the incoming jurisdictions on 1 July 2019. This includes the requirements to:

- comply with the NDIS Code of Conduct, covering providers and workers
- implement an internal incident reporting system, including the submission of "reportable incidents" reports to the NDIS Commission
- manage complaints effectively

PO Box 210 Penrith NSW 2750 www.ndiscommission.gov.au.

- screen workers in accordance with the arrangements in your state or territory, and
- meet behaviour support reporting obligations, if these apply to your organisation.

From 1 July all registered providers are required to report to the NDIS Commission serious incidents (including allegations) that occur in connection with the provision of supports and services. Reportable incidents include death, serious injury, abuse or neglect, unlawful sexual or physical contact with or assault of an NDIS participant, sexual misconduct committed against or in the presence of a person with disability, and unauthorised restrictive practices.

As you will be aware, providers' obligations are set out in the Act and in a series of rules made under the Act. More information is available on the <u>registered provider responsibilities</u> webpage of the NDIS Commission's website.

The provider portal supports the work of the NDIS Commission. Functionality will be progressively increased from 1 July 2019, and your feedback on the portal will help us with these incremental improvements.

The NDIS Commission is developing practical information and guidance to help you understand and meet your obligations. We will build on this information over time. You can find the rules and further information on <u>the NDIS</u> <u>Commission website</u>.

The commencement of the NDIS Commission has been a significant development, and an important part of the approach to building inclusive, respectful and supportive communities across Australia that promote the rights and wellbeing of people with disability.

We continue to take a collaborative approach as we expand to become a national regulator – working with the sector to drive positive change so that the services and supports provided to people with disability through the NDIS are safe, and deliver the best possible outcomes for every participant.

I look forward to working with people with disability – and their carers, families and advocates across Australia– and with providers to deliver this new approach to quality and safeguards.

Yours sincerely,

Graeme Head AO

Commissioner

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