

Communiqué - Provider Advisory Group Meeting

June 2025

Introduction

The Provider Advisory Group meeting was held online on Wednesday 18 June 2025. The meeting was chaired by Deputy Commissioner Complaints and Engagement, Sian Leathern and focused on three areas:

- 1. Findings from mandatory registration consultations
- 2. Disability Action Plan
- 3. Provider Advisory Group survey feedback and next term

1. Findings from Mandatory Registration consultations

Public consultation for mandatory registration opened on 28 November 2024 and closed on 14 May 2025. Consultation papers and surveys were published on the Commission's Reform Hub.

For mandatory registration of Support Coordination and Supported Independent Living, the Commission consulted on how the proposed changes may impact NDIS participants and their access to supports, and providers; and how they manage the transition to these new arrangements.

For mandatory registration of Platform Providers, the commission consulted on the definition of Platform Providers and Registration of Platform Providers that supports quality and safety while continuing to support participant choice and market innovation.

Feedback was provided via survey responses from participants and their supports, workers, providers and others, and submissions in response to the <u>consultation paper</u>.

The NDIS Commission will now engage in targeted consultations to work through some of the specific issues raised in the broader community consultation.

An insights report for Support Coordination, Supported Independent Living and Platform Providers consultations will be published on the Commission's Reform Hub in June.

The Commission is working to finalise the changes to registration and how this will work for providers and participants. Consultation documents released last year indicated no changes to mandatory registration will occur before 1 July 2025, however this does not mean that 1 July is the commencement date for mandatory registration.

2. Disability Action Plan

Work on the Commission's inaugural Disability Action Plan continues, which is a five-year internally and externally focused strategy for the Commission to become an employer of choice for people with disability.

The Disability Action Plan is a statement about the Commission's disability inclusion priorities and focus areas. The Commission is seeking to develop stronger relationships with disability representative organisations to improve outcomes for people with disability and how they work with us. The Commission aims to embed the voice of people with disability and their expertise in all work areas.

The Disability Action Plan will be launched in August to include greater input from internal groups including the First Nations Employee Network and Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group and external stakeholders.

3. Provider Advisory Group Survey feedback and next term

Members provided positive feedback and identified areas for improvement which, along with the Commission's experience of working with the community and sector, an enhanced way of engaging has been proposed. The new NDIS Commission Consultative Forums structure will include three forums:

- Advisory Council: Strategic advisory body providing direct disability advice and input to the Commissioner and Associate Commissioner on issues affecting people with disability, NDIS participants and the Scheme. Membership will comprise people with disability.
- Sector Consultation Forum: Consultative group of sector and industry stakeholders to
 provide feedback to the Commission on aspects of our work impacting providers, peak
 bodies, disability representative organisations and advocates; with the aim of improving the
 experience and outcomes for people with disability.
- Participant Co-Design Panel: The NDIS Commission is exploring the concept of a flexible register of NDIS participants and their community who express interest in participating in consultation and co-design activities. The Panel would give the Commission the ability to consult with people with disability across a wide range of areas.

The Expression of Interest process for the Consultative Forums are being prepared and the Commission will ensure opportunities are communicated once finalised.