

# NDS Update

**Sarah Fordyce**  
NDS Victoria Policy Manager

- NDIS national update
- Victorian update
- Hot issues

# National Update

## NDIS 4th Quarterly Report 2016-17

- 90,638 participants had an approved NDIS plan as at 30 June 2017
- 15,078 participants received an approved plan in the quarter
- 6,134 children had been referred through the ECEI gateway by the end of the quarter
- 13,434 plans were reviewed in the quarter and 37,020 plans reviewed in total in 2016-17
- 84% of surveyed participants in the quarter rated their experience either good or very good. The overall average satisfaction rating since the Scheme began is 92%
- 8,698 service providers have been registered – 28% increase in the quarter

# National Update

## NDS State of the Sector Report 2016

- Demand growing rapidly – 71% Business Confidence Survey respondents reported increased demand
- Demand proving challenging to meet – 38% respondents unable to keep up
- Clients exercising choice – 58% respondents operating in NDIS had clients leave them for another
- Providers are diversifying – 48% respondents entering new markets
- Achieving a surplus is tough – 22% respondents made a loss
- Merger activity increasing – 41% discussing

# National Update



NDS '*How to get the NDIS on track*' recommendations include:

- Trial planning partnerships with specialist disability service providers
- Commence plan development with an accurate description of current supports
- Allow participants the opportunity to comment on their plan before it is finalised
- Include coordination of supports in the plans of participants with complex conditions
- 'Work first' approach re employment supports in plans
- Access to SLES as early as Year 10; extend SLES beyond 2 years for employment outcomes

See <https://www.nds.org.au/news/how-to-get-the-ndis-on-track-nds-paper-released>

# National Update

## Pricing

### **Productivity Commission paper**

- Reinforces many issues raised by NDS
- Recommendations on improving planning quality; introduce Independent Price Monitor; relax guidelines around paying informal carers living with participant; implement e-market and detailed market position statements; increase funding for ILC
- Current policy setting unlikely to see enough providers and workers
- identifies some risks of market failure: remote areas, people with complex needs

**Independent Pricing Review**, being conducted by McKinsey

# National Update

- Participant & Provider end to end review
- ILC

[ILC National Readiness Grants](#) open for 2017-18 to 2018-19 – applications close 29 September

- National Quality and Safeguarding Framework released  
*NDIS Amendment (Quality and Safeguards Commission and Other Measures) Bill 2017* before Parliament

# Victorian Update

## **Victorian government response to Productivity Commission**

- no case for any major changes to core scheme design
- Scheme rollout should not be delayed to address challenges with transition
- A significant cause of performance problems due to low resourcing and a lack of specialisation within the NDIA
- The NDIA needs to develop individualised approaches for persons with complex needs, psychosocial disability and that are hard to reach
- Victoria welcomes the move to an independent price regulator

## **NDS Victoria Sector Transition Project update**

- NDS will get sector transition funding for 2017/2018 and 2018/2019

## **Multi-employer industrial agreement update**

- Jobs Australia and the unions meeting with government to seek funding to allow negotiation of a multi employer agreement



# Victorian Update

## New Victorian safeguards

- CIMS, from 15 January 2018
- Workforce registration and accreditation scheme
- DWES
  - Extension to cover all workers who provide direct support to people with disabilities & their supervisors
- Victorian Code of Conduct
  - To sit alongside the National Code; focus on abuse prevention; Vic registration will require all providers to ensure all their workers have signed the Code, and all organisations also signed; to be launched shortly
- Extension of powers, Disability Services Commissioner

# A few current hot issues ..

- **Respite facilities** (Short Term Accommodation and Assistance)
  - 17-18 price rose by \$21.60 per day to \$501.71
  - No weekend or public holiday loading
  - No separate funding for bricks and mortar
  - No national 24/7 response system in place for emergency short term accommodation needs
- **NDIS Interface with mainstream**
- **Supported Independent Living (SIL)** - new process/template
- **Nominees**
- **Service Bookings**
- **transport**

# Online Support

- NDS Sector Transition Project Page  
[www.nds.org.au/stpvc](http://www.nds.org.au/stpvc)
- NDIS Helpdesk  
[www.tinyurl.com/NDISHelpdesk](http://www.tinyurl.com/NDISHelpdesk)
- Free monthly NDIS newsletter  
[www.nds.org.au/stpvc](http://www.nds.org.au/stpvc)
- NDS Provider Toolkit  
[www.nds.org.au/resources/ndisprovider-toolkit](http://www.nds.org.au/resources/ndisprovider-toolkit)
- Board Directors Toolkit  
[www.nds.org.au/resources/ndis-toolkit-for-directors](http://www.nds.org.au/resources/ndis-toolkit-for-directors)
- Look out for NDS Readiness & Implementation Forums
- NDS Housing Forum, 18 October



# Thank you



03 8341 4300



[ndsvic@nds.org.au](mailto:ndsvic@nds.org.au)



[@ndsvic](https://twitter.com/ndsvic)