

NDIS & Victorian NDS update

Sarah Fordyce
Victorian Policy Manager
National Disability Services
Sarah.Fordyce@nds.org.au

2017-18 NDIA Quarterly Report Q3: key data & trends

- 70% of bilateral targets met
- 28% of participants entering in this quarter identified Autism as their primary disability group
- 57.3% participants activated their plans in less than 30 days
- Participant satisfaction: 84% rating their satisfaction as good or very good
- \$15B of supports has been committed to 151,970 participants
- Number of approved providers increased by 16%
- 52% of providers are currently active
- A higher number than expected participants continue to approach the Scheme

Commonwealth Ombudsman report on unscheduled plan reviews

- Between July 2016 and January 2018, the Ombudsman received 400 complaints that were at least in part about the NDIA's handling of a review
- Represents 32.5% of all complaints made to the Ombudsman about the NDIA during the period
- Level of unscheduled reviews is 3 times higher than anticipated
- In February 2018 around 8,100 reviews remained in the backlog
- NDIA receives around 620 new review requests each week
- The Report outlined 20 recommendations, all of which the NDIA has agreed to

NDIS Quality and Safeguards Rules released

NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission will be in force in July 2019 in Victoria

- Provider Registration and Practice Standards
- Quality Indicators Guidelines
- Code of Conduct Rules
- NDIS Provider Definition Rule
- Complaints Management and Resolution Rules
- Incident Management and Reportable Incidents Rules
- Protection and Disclosure of Information - Commissioner
- Restrictive Practices and Behaviour Support Rules
- Specialist Disability Accommodation Conditions

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2018L00631>

Implementation Update of IPR Recommendations

The below recommendations are to be implemented by 1 July 2018 as part of the FY2018-19 Annual Price Review.

Other recommendations will be phased in after further consultation with the sector.

Prioritised recommendations include:

- Regional Travel
- Short Term Accommodation
- Temporary Support for Overheads
- Cancellation policy for core supports
- Group supports
- Therapy assistants (phase one)
- Therapy travel
- Cancellation policy for therapy
- Reports requested by NDIA

Changes to Assistive Technology and Home Modifications

Phase 1: In place now

- Include funds in **core budget** (\$500, \$1000 or \$1500) for Level 1 and 2 AT
- Approximately \$520 for support from AT practitioner (if required) in **capacity building** to assist with selection and training
- No additional assessments or quotations required prior to purchase

Phase 2: Medium-long term solutions

- Pilot a new approach to Assistive Technology for Level 3 and 4

Phase 3: Deliver the preferred approach nationally

- Refine and adjust the pilot, build a panel of assessors

Current NDIS issues

- Pricing
- Planning (and processes generally)
- Transport
- Workforce
- Provider of last resort
- SDA/SIL/Disability Housing
- Supported employment
- NDIS/mainstream services interface issues
- Continuity of support
- Research
- Market design/role of the Agency

Victorian Update

Victorian Disability Abuse Prevention Strategy

- As part of the strategy, a mandatory Code of Conduct is being introduced to better protect people with a disability from abuse and neglect
- It prescribes the behaviour expected of disability service workers and the requirements of disability service provider organisations
- The code contains five obligations* all disability service workers must abide by and is expected to be implemented by July 2018
- The Victorian code of conduct and abuse prevention strategy will apply as interim measures as the state transitions to full implementation of the NDIS in Victoria

<https://providers.dhhs.vic.gov.au/code-conduct-disability-workers>

Victorian registration and accreditation scheme

- Vic Government is establishing an independent, legislated and voluntary Victorian registration and accreditation scheme for the state's disability workforce.
- To strengthen safeguards for people with a disability by maintaining and attracting disability support workers who have the right skills, experience and qualifications.
- Scheme includes a number of elements:
 - mapping job functions, values, skills, capabilities and training requirements of the existing workforce and the future NDIS workforce
 - assessing existing and planned arrangements for quality assurance, including consideration of how such a scheme would strengthen and complement existing national and state-based arrangements for quality and safeguarding.

Long Service Benefits Portability Bill 2018

- Long Service Benefits Portability Bill is currently before Parliament
- The Bill proposes to introduce portable long service leave to the community services sector (excluding health and aged care)
- Under the Bill, providers will need to pay a levy for all employees, including casuals, on a quarterly basis to a new independent authority
- NDS does not support the Bill, recommending disability services are exempted
- Providers are urged to raise their concerns with the Bill to NDS and their local member of parliament

<https://www.nds.org.au/news/portable-long-service-leave-proposed-for-victoria>

NDS Resources

Access our resources at www.nds.org.au/stpvic

Organisational Partnerships Resources



www.ndp.org.au/learning-hub/online-learning/collaborations-and-strategic-restructuring-for-not-for-profits



www.nds.org.au/resources/nds-consulting



Moody's message: Thoughts on innovation and introspection

How do we ignite young people to work in the disability sector? This was answered.



News on the Ground - August 2017

It's been another busy month for our Sector Engagement team. Read their insights from recent travel to key NDIS roll out sites.

Ask a question on the **NDIS Helpdesk**



Learn and Develop for the NDIS

Access our **NDIS Resource Library**



Visit our website

THANK YOU



03 8341 4300



ndsvic@nds.org.au



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



www.nds.org.au/stpvic