



NDIS Reform Advisory Committee

Meeting Summary – Friday 3 July 2026

The NDIS Reform Advisory Committee (RAC) met on 3 July 2026.

The meeting focused on the current NDIS reform environment, community concerns regarding proposed legislative changes, preparations for consultation on New Framework Planning, and emerging work on market reforms for social and community participation.

The Co-Chairs provided an update on recent engagement with Minister McAllister. Members noted continuing uncertainty and concern across the disability community following the introduction of the NDIS Amendment (Securing the NDIS for Future Generations) Bill 2026 and associated reform measures.

Members discussed ongoing RAC priorities, including:

- Access and Eligibility reforms
- New Framework Planning
- Foundational Supports, including Thriving Kids

Members shared feedback from communities, organisations and stakeholders across jurisdictions. Consistent feedback received about the disability community's concern, uncertainty and confusion about the reforms, particularly in relation to the proposed support determination powers, eligibility, future access to supports, foundational supports and Thriving Kids. Members also noted concerns from the housing, supported independent living (SIL) and support coordination sectors about workforce sustainability, market confidence and potential unintended consequences of funding changes.

Officials from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing and the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) provided an update on New Framework Planning, including an overview of the consultation activities.

Officials outlined work underway to develop consultation materials on:

- Support Needs Assessment Rules
- Budget Method Rules
- NDIS Supports Rules
- Plan Variation Rules

The RAC was provided with an overview of the proposed participant pathway, including proposed transition processes, impairment notices, support needs assessments and targeted assessment modules.

Members raised questions and concerns about:

- Validation and reliability of assessment tools.



- How complex and intersecting support needs will be reflected in assessments.
- The relationship between impairment notices, eligibility decisions and support needs assessments.
- The participant experience and communication requirements during transition.
- Access to specialist assessments and evidence, particularly for participants with complex needs.

Members noted the importance of clear, accessible communication and sufficient preparation time for participants. Members also emphasised the need for culturally safe approaches and appropriate arrangements for people in remote communities, First Nations communities and culturally and linguistically diverse communities. Officials acknowledged these concerns and advised that testing, validation and consultation work is continuing, with further information to be provided as testing progresses.

Officials from DHDA engaged members on market reforms for social and community participation (SCP), to strengthen quality and participant outcomes. Further consultation will focus on how SCP supports contribute to community participation, inclusion and capacity building, and how the provider side of the NDIS market could be improved over time.

Members emphasised that social and community participation supports are critical to participant wellbeing, independence, safeguarding and inclusion.

Key concerns raised included:

- Potential impacts of funding reductions on participants' ability to engage in community life.
- Risks of increased social isolation and poorer health and wellbeing outcomes.
- Cost shifting to families, carers, housing, health and other service systems.
- Challenges faced by young people, people in remote communities and people with psychosocial disability to accessing their communities.
- The need to improve community inclusion rather than relying solely on individual supports.

Members highlighted the importance of investing in genuine, inclusive communities, local partnerships and community development approaches that improve accessibility, participation and belonging. Officials welcomed feedback and committed to further engagement with disability stakeholders throughout the consultation process.

Members discussed priorities for upcoming engagement with ministers and reinforced the importance of ensuring reform implementation remains focused on participant outcomes, equity, inclusion and long-term sustainability.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7 August 2026.