Technical Advisory Group on NDIS Functional Capacity – Communiqué

24 November 2026

The sixth meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on NDIS Functional Capacity (TAG) was held today. Professor Christine Imms and Ms Mary Wood, Deputy Secretary, Disability and Carers Group, Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, co-chaired the meeting.

Members noted that feedback from consultation and stakeholder engagement had been incorporated into the framework for assessing functional capacity for the purposes of NDIS access. Feedback has helped inform the guiding principles, key concepts and core design features of the proposed NDIS access process.

The TAG agreed that a single report will cover the framework, guiding principles and proposed assessment model. It will include advice on assessment tools, evidence requirements and decision pathways. The TAG will also provide preliminary advice on workforce considerations, validation and continuous improvement of the assessment model.

Members considered the interaction between substantially reduced functional capacity and permanence. It was noted that the department will continue targeted consultation to inform the development of any rules and guidance for delegates related to permanence.

Members discussed key issues to be considered in the next phase of the TAG's work. Meetings in December 2026 and early 2027 will focus on developing further advice to support implementation, testing and validation of the proposed assessment approach, including assessment thresholds. This will come ahead of statutory NDIS rules development.

The Hon Mark Butler MP, Minister for Health and Ageing and Minister for Disability and the NDIS, Senator the Hon Jenny McAllister, Minister for the NDIS, and Ms Suzanne Orr MLA, ACT Minister for Disability, Autism and Neurodiversity, attended part of the meeting. Ministers were briefed by members on deliberations to date.

For further information, please contact the TAG Secretariat at TAGSecretariat@health.gov.au.