Advisory Committee on the Health Emergency Response to Coronavirus (COVID-19) for People with Disability

Meeting 8 March 2022 – Summary of Outcomes

The Department presented data on COVID-19 vaccination rates for people with disability by:

* jurisdiction
* Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status
* Local Government Area (LGA), focusing on areas where vaccination rates are lagging the general population, and
* disability type.

The Committee raised concerns about vaccination rates among disability support pension recipients and National Disability Insurance Scheme participants aged 5-11. Committee members requested further breakdown of the data presented by:

* age
* gender
* residential setting, and
* overlap between National Disability Insurance Scheme participants and disability support pension.

The Department provided an update on communications covering:

* the development of a communications strategy in consultation with the Committee’s communications working group
* priorities throughout March
* the initial consultation phase for disability awareness video series, and
* a recent meeting on communications with the Disability Discrimination Commissioner.

The Committee also discussed a project to capture the lessons learned by the Committee throughout the pandemic. The Committee was asked to provide feedback on a document outlining the proposed scope of that project by Friday 11 March.

# NEXT STEPS

The Department’s Health and Economics Research Division will meet with the Committee’s data working group and other Commonwealth agencies to discuss:

* what further data on vaccination rates among people with disability could be provided to the Committee
* the way the Department could present vaccination data publicly, and
* further data linkage opportunities.

The next meeting of the Advisory Committee is scheduled for 15 March 2022.