# Specialist Disability Accommodation Limited Assumptions Review 2019

# Terms of Reference

## Overview

1. On 8 February 2019, a number of initiatives and changes to Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) were announced – following a review by the Disability Reform Council in 2018.
2. The announcement included that the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) would undertake a review of SDA factors or assumptions to resolve any issues that may be creating unintentional disincentives for investment in particular regions or SDA types.
3. Consistent with section 25 of the recently revised SDA Pricing and Payments Framework, the review will not result in any reductions to current prices.
4. The NDIA will lead the review, which will be undertaken with the assistance of independent experts to provide evidence and analysis to support the NDIA making its recommendations to the NDIA Pricing Reference Group for decision.
5. Any changes to SDA prices resulting from the review will apply from 1 July 2019.
6. The SDA Reference Group has been consulted on the scope of the review and the terms of reference.

## Scope of the Review

1. The review will examine, through submission, targeted consultation, research and analysis, whether the existing cost assumptions underpinning SDA prices will support investment across the range of SDA types and locations. The review will be open to consider all cost assumptions and factors, however the review will seek to focus in particular on SDA location factors and construction cost assumptions for the various building types and design categories.
2. The review will focus on factors and assumptions identified through submission and provide analysis and evidence to the NDIS Pricing Reference Group to support a decision on whether changes are required.
3. The review will also provide analysis to support further consideration by the NDIA regarding whether adjustments to SDA pricing arrangements could reduce provider disincentives to accommodating participants who wish to live with non-participants, or participants who are not eligible for SDA. In doing so, it must be noted that SDA funds are only for eligible participants and cannot be used to contribute to the housing costs of others.
4. The review will be cognisant of the objectives and principles of the NDIS, as set out in the *National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013*, including that the NDIS should:
   1. support the independence and social and economic participation of people with disability;
   2. enable people with disability to exercise choice and control in the pursuit of their goals and the planning and delivery of their supports;
   3. facilitate the development of a nationally consistent approach to the access to, and the planning and funding of, supports for people with disability;
   4. promote the provision of high quality and innovative supports that enable people with disability to maximise independent lifestyles and full inclusion in the community;
   5. adopt an insurance based approach, informed by actuarial analysis, to the provision and funding of supports for people with disability; and
   6. be financially sustainable.

## Process and timing

1. The review will commence in April 2019 and deliver recommendations to the NDIA’s Pricing Reference Group in June 2019, for implementation of any changes from 1 July 2019.

| April 2019 | * Release Terms of Reference * Call for Public Submissions |
| --- | --- |
| May 2019 | * Public Submissions close |
| June 2019 | * Publish outcomes |
| July 2019 | * Changes implemented |

## Further information

1. Further information on the Review can be found on [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au).