



National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

Home Modifications Australia
National Conference

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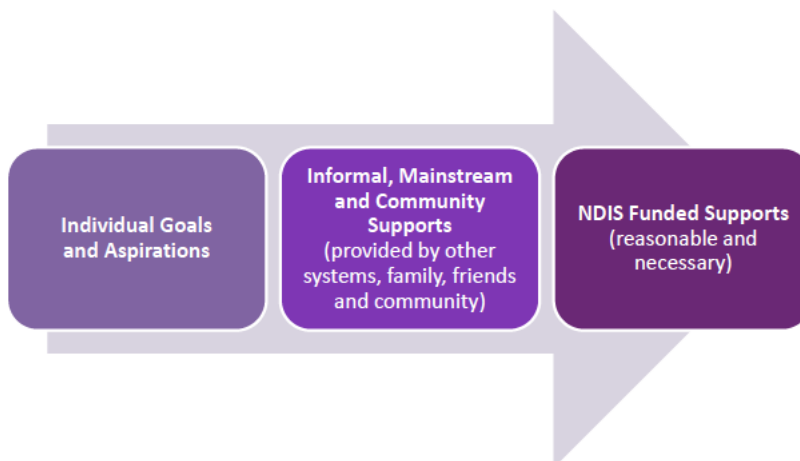
Delivered by the
National Disability
Insurance Agency

Working with the NDIS



- Role of National Disability Insurance Agency, planners and local area co-ordinators
- The reasonable and necessary decision making framework for funded supports in the context of home modifications
- Scope and limitations of NDIS funded supports

An individual plan

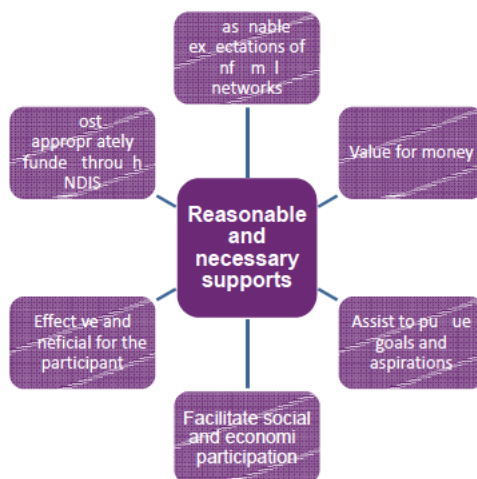


Three key pillars underpin NDIS design



Insurance Approach	Choice and Control	Community and Mainstream
<p>Supports economic and social participation.</p> <p>Mobilises funding for early intervention</p> <p>Estimates and manages resource allocation based on managing long term costs across the life-course of individuals</p> <p>Shares the cost of disability across the community</p>	<p>Participants determine how much control they want over management of their funding, supports and providers</p> <p>Scheme gives effect to certain obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - including respect for their worth, dignity and to live free from abuse, neglect and exploitation</p>	<p>People are supported to access and coordinate community and funded supports</p> <p>The scheme will not duplicate or replace mainstream services</p> <p>Effective interface with mainstream and community supports is central to the sustainability of the Scheme</p>

Funded supports - Reasonable and necessary



s34 of the NDIS Act

Assist the participant to pursue their stated goals in the NDIS plan



- Recommended modifications must be related to goals
- Modifications must facilitate the participant to achieve their stated goals.
- Standard level or second hand items can still facilitate the achievement of goals and are often better value for money



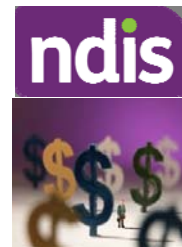
Facilitating social and economic participation



- Decision-makers must be satisfied that the support will assist the participant to undertake activities, so as to facilitate the participant's social and economic participation
- Alternatives such as community facilities will be considered when making reasonable and necessary decisions about funding



Value for money



- The support must represent value for money
- Other options must be considered and compared.
- The NDIS will only fund the standard level of fixtures and fittings
- Value for money is essential for the sustainability of the scheme
- Prescribers are essential partner with the NDIA in achieving scheme sustainability.

Likely to be effective and beneficial



- Supports must assist the participant to achieve their identified goals as documented in the NDIA plan
- Supports must not cause harm to the participant or pose risk to others
- Supports must be effective and likely to be beneficial, having regard to current good practice
- Supports must be legal to provide and use

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Accounts for what is reasonably expected of informal networks



- Consider roles and responsibilities of family and other residents in the home
- NDIS will not fund supports which are the responsibility of the home owner



Reasonable and Necessary Home Modifications



- Access to the dwelling
- Access to frequently used rooms to facilitate ADLS especially the participant's bedroom, living area, meal area and bathroom
- Funded at a standard grade level



Consideration of Alternatives



- All possible equipment options must be explored and exhausted
- Where alternative options achieve the same goals and are more cost effective then home mods are not likely to be reasonable and necessary
- Other accommodation options must be considered if dwelling is uninhabitable during the build
- Short term v permanent solutions
- Home mods for other than physical access



New Premises



- The participant must consider their disability needs in the selection of new premises
- It is not expected that NDIS will fund significant modifications to new premises
- If a participant chooses to build a new home that is not readily accessible, NDIS will only meet the disability needs of an already accessible home.



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Participant Cost Contribution



- The NDIS will fund standard quality home modifications
- Participants can contribute additional funds to upgrade the fixtures or fittings or to extend the modifications
- Where this occurs, should the dwelling be uninhabitable for any period of time, the schedule of works must prioritise the modifications which allow the participant's return
- Details of the contribution must be agreed prior to commencement of the build

What doesn't the NDIS fund?



The NDIS will not fund modifications

- that are not disability related
- that relate to day to day living expenses
- that may cause harm or risk to safety
- where there are other options available



Examples of recommendations not likely to be funded



- Private room for a participant just because their home is not considered big enough for the number of occupants or the size of the person's family
- Extra rooms or an extension to the existing footprint of the home to provide more room, extra bathroom space or a separate toilet in an overcrowded home, are unlikely to be seen as needs attributable specifically to the person's disability
- The accommodation of paid carers in the home.
- The addition of an extra room to be used as a therapy room or as an equipment storage room is not essential to support a participant's social and economic goals.

Assess holistically and manage expectations



- Not all home modification needs may be the responsibility of the NDIS to fund
- The final decision lies with the Agency and is subject to the reasonable and necessary criteria
- A report and associated quotes are a proposal
- It may take some time for the Agency to review a recommendation and further information may be required
- Take care not to promise anything



Questions?

