Transcript for Northern Territory Quarterly Performance Dashboard as at 31 December 2022

This dashboard provides a quarterly comparison of key statistics relating to active participants and their experience in the Scheme. It also includes key outcomes and participant satisfaction results as well as market characteristics.

## Participants and planning

A table displays the following key statistics on the Northern Territory participant experience as at 31 December 2022 and 30 September 2022.

• The number of active participants with approved plans increased from 5,181 as at 30 September 2022 to 5,375 as at 31 December 2022.

• The number of children accessing early connections decreased from 118 as at 30 September 2022 to 98 as at 31 December 2022.

• The number of children waiting for early connections increased from 1 as at 30 September 2022 to 2 as at 31 December 2022.

• The percentage of participants fully or partially self-managing their plan decreased from 16% as at 30 September 2022 to 15% as at 31 December 2022.

• The percentage of plans activated within 90 days remained stable at 83%, from 30 September 2022 to 31 December 2022. Participants who joined the Scheme prior to 1 July 2016 and those with initial plans approved after the end of the 2021-22 quarter 4 have been excluded.

• The number of participant plan reassessments completed decreased from 1,313 in the quarter ending 30 September 2022 to 930 in the quarter ending 31 December 2022. Plans less than 31 days in duration have been excluded. The new definition is included under section 49 of the NDIS Act (2013) and replaces the previous definition of plan review.

A chart displays the change in active participants between 30 September 2022 and 31 December 2022.

At the beginning of quarter 2 2022-23 there were 5,181 active participants (excluding children accessing early connections). During 2022-23 quarter 2, there were 233 plan approvals and 39 participants exited the Scheme or moved to another state or territory. This resulted in 5,375 active participants as at 31 December 2022.

The following key statistics summarise the Northern Territory performance as at 31 December 2022.

• 5,755 participants (excluding children accessing early connections) have had an approved plan since July 2013. 5,375 of these continue to be active.

• 3,291 active participants have not previously received disability support via State and Commonwealth programs in the past.

• In the current quarter, 233 participants have entered the Scheme and there are none accessing early connections at the end of December 2022.

• 930 plans have had reassessments this quarter.

• 281 access decisions have been made in the quarter of which 236 met access and are still active.

• 121 (52.4%) of the new active participants this quarter identified as First Nations participants, taking the total number of First Nations participants in Northern Territory to 2,713 (50.5%).

• 12 (5.2%) of the new active participants this quarter are Culturally and Linguistically Diverse, taking the total number of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse participants in Northern Territory to 340 (6.3%). The number of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse participants excludes First Nations participants.

## Participant outcomes and satisfaction

A table displays the following key statistics on Northern Territory participant outcomes and satisfaction.

For Participant and Scheme Outcome metrics from the Corporate Plan as at 31 December 2022, the Outcome results include participants who have been in the Scheme for at least two years. Trial participants are excluded. Except for the parent and carer employment rate, only participants aged 15 and over are included. The Baseline results are at Scheme entry. The following four indicators are outcomes measures.

• The participant employment rate increased from 13% at baseline to 14% at the latest reassessment. The Participant Employment Rate metric includes results for participants aged 15 to 64.

• The participant social and community engagement rate increased from 44% at baseline to 46% at the latest reassessment.

• The parent and carer employment rate increased from 53% at baseline to 56% at the latest reassessment.

• The participant perception of choice and control increased from 57% at the first reassessment to 69% at the latest reassessment.

The following results indicate the percentage of participants rating their overall experience as 'Very Good' or 'Good' by pathway stage in current and previous quarters.

• The percentage for the 'Access' stage was unavailable for the quarters ending 30 September 2022 and 31 December 2022.

• The percentage for the 'Pre-planning' stage was unavailable for the quarters ending 30 September 2022 and 31 December 2022.

• The percentage for the 'Planning' stage decreased from 90% in the quarter ending 30 September 2022 to 84% in the quarter ending 31 December 2022.

• The percentage for the 'Plan reassessment' stage increased from 60% in the quarter ending 30 September 2022 to 62% in the quarter ending 31 December 2022.

## Participant Service Guarantee

The following statistics concern Participant Service Guarantee metrics. These statistics look at the percentage of cases meeting the Service Guarantee target in the quarters ending 30 September 2022 and 31 December 2022. Participant Service Guarantee results in the previous quarter may be restated due to ongoing logic refinement and changes in data quality.

The following metric is concerned with the General category.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 1: The percentage of explanations of previous decisions made within 28 days after a request for explanation is received was 100% as at 31 December 2022. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 30 September 2022.

The following three metrics are concerned with Access.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 2: The percentage of access decisions made or further information requested within 21 days of an access request remained stable at 100%, from 30 September 2022 to 31 December 2022.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 3: The percentage of access decisions allowing 90 days for prospective participants to provide information, after NDIA has requested further information, was 100% as at 30 September 2022. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2022.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 4: The percentage of access decisions made within 14 days of final information being provided remained stable at 100%, from 30 September 2022 to 31 December 2022.

The following three metrics are concerned with Planning.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 5: The percentage of cases where facilitating the preparation of a plan commenced within 21 days of an access decision being made increased from 83% as at 30 September 2022 to 88% as at 31 December 2022.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 6: The percentage of first plans that were approved within 56 days after access decisions were made, increased from 69% as at 30 September 2022 to 75% as at 31 December 2022.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 7: The percentage of first plans that were approved within 90 days after access decisions were made, for Early Childhood Early Intervention participants, increased from 90% as at 30 September 2022 to 92% as at 31 December 2022. Early Childhood Early Intervention is now known as Early Childhood Approach.

The following metric is concerned with Implementation.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 9: The percentage of cases where a plan implementation meeting was held within 28 days if the participant accepts the offer remained stable at 100%, from 30 September 2022 to 31 December 2022.

The following three metrics are concerned with plan reassessments.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 11: The percentage of cases where facilitating a scheduled plan reassessment commenced at least 56 days prior to the scheduled reassessment date increased from 56% as at 30 September 2022 to 64% as at 31 December 2022. The NDIA’s new participant check-in process ensures that every plan reassessment begins with a contact from the planner or partner to discuss reassessment options well before any scheduled reassessment date. Plans are extended automatically if they have not been reassessed before the reassessment date so participants have continuity of support.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 12: The percentage of cases where the decision to undertake a Participant Requested Plan Reassessment was made within 21 days decreased from 94% as at 30 September 2022 to 75% as at 31 December 2022. The definition of Participant Reassessment Request is included under section 48 of the NDIS Act (2013) and replaces the previous definition of plan review request.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 13: The percentage of reassessments that were completed within 28 days after the decision to accept the request was made increased from 37% as at 30 September 2022 to 54% as at 31 December 2022.

The following two metrics are concerned with Amendments.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 14: The percentage of cases where a plan was varied within 28 days after receiving information that triggers the plan amendment process decreased from 90% as at 30 September 2022 to 85% as at 31 December 2022.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 15: The percentage of cases where a plan was varied within 50 days after receiving information that relates to a complex quote that triggers a plan amendment process was 100% as at 30 September 2022. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2022.

The following two metrics are concerned with Reviewable Decisions.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 17: The proportion of internal Reviews of Reviewable Decisions that were completed within 60 days after the request was received increased from 89% as at 30 September 2022 to 92% as at 31 December 2022.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 18: The percentage of cases where an Administrative Appeals Tribunal decision was implemented to amend a plan within 28 days after receiving notification of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal decision decreased from 100% as at 30 September 2022 to 91% as at 31 December 2022.

The following two metrics are concerned with Nominees.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 19: The percentage of cases where a participant requested nominee was cancelled within 14 days was 100% as at 31 December 2022. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 30 September 2022.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 20: The percentage of cases where a Chief Executive Officer initiated nominee was cancelled within 14 days cannot be measured for both the quarters ending 30 September 2022 and 31 December 2022.

• The NDIA commenced measuring performance against the Participant Service Guarantee metrics prior to the legislation of the Participant Service Charter and Guarantee. On 30 March 2022, the NDIS Amendment (Participant Service Guarantee and Other Measures) Bill 2021 passed in both houses of Parliament, and received Royal Assent on 1 April 2022. 'NA' means that Participant Service Guarantee results cannot be measured.

## Provider and market metrics

A table displays the following key statistics on Northern Territory market supply and participant costs as at 31 December 2022 and at 30 September 2022.

• The total number of active providers (with at least one claim ever) increased from 958 as at 30 September 2022 to 975 as at 31 December 2022. Active providers refer to those who have received payment for supporting Agency-managed participants.

• The total number of active providers in the last quarter increased from 309 as at 30 September 2022 to 317 as at 31 December 2022. Active providers refer to those who have received payment for supporting Agency-managed participants.

• Utilisation (which is calculated as a 6 month rolling average with a 3 month lag) increased from 75% as at 30 September 2022 to 76% as at 31 December 2022.

• Plan utilisation by service district. The proportion of service districts that are more than 10 percentage points below the benchmark remained stable at 33%, from 30 September 2022 to 31 December 2022. The ‘benchmark’ in this analysis is the National average after adjusting for the proportion of participants in Supported Independent Living in each service district and the length of time participants have been in the Scheme.

• Market concentration. The proportion of service districts where more than 70% of payments for supports go to the top 10 providers decreased from 50% as at 30 September 2022 to 33% as at 31 December 2022. Improved data on providers is now used to measure provider concentration, with payments to plan managers now attributed to the support provider. This has led to an apparent reduction in concentration, and a change in the benchmark used to 70%.

• The proportion of payments paid within 5 days through the portal remained stable at 99.8%, from 30 September 2022 to 31 December 2022.

• Total payments from 1 July 2022 were $254 million as at 31 December 2022.

• Total annualised plan budgets increased from $595 million as at 30 September 2022 to $636 million as at 31 December 2022.

• Plan inflation (current quarter percentage per annum) increased from 18.2% in the September 2022 quarter to 23.2% in the December 2022 quarter. Starting with the March 2022 quarter, total plan inflation was altered to include plan budget changes occurring at plan reassessment, as well as changes occurring between reassessments. This increased the rate of inflation previously measured. The annualisation calculation excludes the impact of plan indexation impacting July 2022 following the Annual Pricing Review. The indexation impact is then added back to the annualised figure. This impact is 4.6% Nationally. In this December quarter, a further rescaling is applied to the split between inflation at plan reassessment and within a plan. This results in a minor one-off change in the historical split while overall inflation is not changed.

• Inflation at plan reassessment (current quarter percentage per annum) increased from 10.3% in the September 2022 quarter to 14.3% in the December 2022 quarter.

• Inflation within a plan, between reviews (current quarter percentage per annum) increased from 7.9% in the September 2022 quarter to 8.9% in the December 2022 quarter.

• Socioeconomic equity increased from 80% in the September 2022 quarter to 98% in the December 2022 quarter. Socioeconomic status uses deciles from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Index of Education and Occupation. A higher decile indicates that people residing in that area have a higher level of skills and qualifications on average. The socioeconomic equity metric is equal to the average annualised plan budget of participants residing in the top two deciles divided by the average annualised plan budget of participants residing in the bottom two deciles (participants not in Supported Independent Living and aged 0 to 64). For the December 2022 quarter, this is mix adjusted for age profile.

The following comments are made regarding the Northern Territory experience:

• Total annualised plan budgets at 31 December 2022 were $636m and payments from 1 July 2022 were $254m.

• The number of active providers at the end of December is 975, growing by 2% in the quarter.

• Utilisation has been 76% in the 6 months from 1 April 2022 to 30 September 2022, with 33% (2 out of 6) of service districts in Northern Territory more than 10 percentage points from the adjusted National benchmark.

• In 33% (2 out of 6) of service districts, the top 10 providers provide more than 70% of payments.

A chart displays the Northern Territory distribution of service districts by plan utilisation as at 31 December 2022. The ‘benchmark’ in this analysis is the National average after adjusting for the proportion of participants in Supported Independent Living in each service district and the length of time participants have been in the Scheme.

• No service districts are more than 10 percentage points above the adjusted National benchmark.

• No service districts are between 5 and 10 percentage points above the adjusted National benchmark.

• 3 out of 6 (50%) service districts are within 5 percentage points of the adjusted National benchmark.

• 1 out of 6 (17%) service districts are between 5 and 10 percentage points below the adjusted National benchmark.

• 2 out of 6 (33%) service districts are more than 10 percentage points below the adjusted National benchmark.

Service districts more than 10% below plan utilisation benchmark:

• East Arnhem: 58% versus 69% benchmark.

• Darwin Remote: 62% versus 73% benchmark.

A chart displays the Northern Territory distribution of service districts by market concentration as at 31 December 2022.

• No service districts have less than 25% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

• 1 out of 6 (17%) service districts have between 25% and 45% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

• 1 out of 6 (17%) service districts have between 45% and 60% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

• 2 out of 6 (33%) service districts have between 60% and 70% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

• 2 out of 6 (33%) service districts have between 70% and 85% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

• No service districts have more than 85% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

Service districts above the market concentration benchmark:

• East Arnhem: 77% versus 70% benchmark.

• Barkly: 76% versus 70% benchmark.

## Summaries by service district

A chart displays the active participants by service district. There are 218 active participants at 31 December 2022 residing in 'Other' service districts. 'Other' includes participants with service district information missing. The average annualised plan budgets and average payments for this group are not shown.

The number of active participants at 31 December 2022 was:

• 146 for Barkly.

• 888 for Central Australia.

• 467 for Darwin Remote.

• 3,176 for Darwin Urban.

• 222 for East Arnhem.

• 258 for Katherine.

Another chart displays the average annualised plan budgets and average payments. There are 218 active participants at 31 December 2022 residing in 'Other' service districts. 'Other' includes participants with service district information missing. The average annualised plan budgets and average payments for this group are not shown. Figures are not shown if there is insufficient data in the service district.

The average annualised plan budget at 31 December 2022 was:

• $106,700 for Barkly.

• $201,000 for Central Australia.

• $67,600 for Darwin Remote.

• $102,600 for Darwin Urban.

• $102,500 for East Arnhem.

• $165,700 for Katherine.

• $118,400 for all of Northern Territory.

The average payments for the 12 months to 31 December 2022 was:

• $70,700 for Barkly.

• $156,600 for Central Australia.

• $40,700 for Darwin Remote.

• $86,500 for Darwin Urban.

• $53,500 for East Arnhem.

• $140,000 for Katherine.

• $93,700 for all of Northern Territory.

Another chart displays the average annualised plan budgets and average payments for participants in Supported Independent Living. There are 218 active participants at 31 December 2022 residing in 'Other' service districts. 'Other' includes participants with service district information missing. The average annualised plan budgets and average payments for this group are not shown. Figures are not shown if there is insufficient data in the service district.

The average annualised plan budget at 31 December 2022 for participants in Supported Independent Living was:

• $691,600 for Central Australia.

• $531,300 for Darwin Urban.

• $581,700 for Katherine.

• $579,200 for all of Northern Territory.

The average payments for the 12 months to 31 December 2022 for participants in Supported Independent Living was:

• $646,600 for Central Australia.

• $473,100 for Darwin Urban.

• $530,400 for Katherine.

• $527,800 for all of Northern Territory.

Another chart displays the average annualised plan budgets and average payments for participants not in Supported Independent Living. There are 218 active participants at 31 December 2022 residing in 'Other' service districts. 'Other' includes participants with service district information missing. The average annualised plan budgets and average payments for this group are not shown. Figures are not shown if there is insufficient data in the service district.

The average annualised plan budget at 31 December 2022 for participants not in Supported Independent Living was:

• $70,300 for Barkly.

• $110,700 for Central Australia.

• $63,100 for Darwin Remote.

• $57,700 for Darwin Urban.

• $95,300 for East Arnhem.

• $77,800 for Katherine.

• $69,900 for all of Northern Territory.

The average payments for the 12 months to 31 December 2022 for participants not in Supported Independent Living was:

• $39,400 for Barkly.

• $68,300 for Central Australia.

• $37,900 for Darwin Remote.

• $47,000 for Darwin Urban.

• $47,100 for East Arnhem.

• $61,100 for Katherine.

• $49,700 for all of Northern Territory.

The following comments are made regarding the Northern Territory experience at service district level as at 31 December 2022.

• Darwin Urban has the highest number of active participants at 3,176 participants, while Barkly has the lowest number at 146 active participants.

• The average annualised plan budget at the end of December for active participants is $118,400 ($69,900 for participants not in Supported Independent Living and $579,200 for participants in Supported Independent Living).

• The average payment for the 12 months ending 31 December 2022 is $93,700 ($49,700 for participants not in Supported Independent Living and $527,800 for participants in Supported Independent Living).

• Central Australia has the highest average annualised plan budgets and payments across all participants.