Transcript for National Quarterly Performance Dashboard as at 31 December 2023

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

The new computer system commenced in Tasmania in the December 2022 quarter and Nationally from 30 October 2023. The Quarterly Performance Dashboard combines data from the current and new systems, where they are available. Data from the new system is not available for all tables shown. Where this is materially incomplete, the underlying data for this dashboard has not been shown. This may lead to restatements of information in future reports.

## Participants and planning

A table displays the following key statistics on the national participant experience as at 31 December 2023 and 30 September 2023:

• The number of active participants with approved plans (excluding children accessing early connections) increased from 631,529 as at 30 September 2023 to 646,449 as at 31 December 2023.

• The number of children accessing early connections was 19,454, as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023. The early childhood approach indicators under the new system (PACE) are being refined. Where these results remain unreliable for this quarter, n/a has been substituted until these are resolved further.

• The number of children waiting for early connections was 724 as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023. The early childhood approach indicators under the new system (PACE) are being refined. Where these results remain unreliable for this quarter, n/a has been substituted until these are resolved further.

• Children benefiting from the Scheme and no longer needing supports (current quarter % per annum) was 5.3% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023. This is an annualised rate of people leaving the scheme for participants aged 0 to 14 with approved plans and those who received early connections. The early childhood approach indicators under PACE are being refined. Where these results remain unreliable for this quarter, n/a has been substituted until these are resolved further.

• The percentage of participants fully or partially self-managing their plan remained stable at 29%, from 30 September 2023 to 31 December 2023.

• The percentage of plans activated within 90 days decreased from 87% as at 30 September 2023 to 86% as at 31 December 2023. Trial participants (participants with initial plans approved prior to 1 July 2016), and those with initial plans approved after the end of 2022-23 Quarter 3, have been excluded.

• The number of completed participant plan reassessments in the quarter decreased from 63,430 in the quarter ending 30 September 2023 to 47,498 in the quarter ending 31 December 2023. Plans less than 31 days in duration have been excluded from this tabulation, as these reassessments are more likely to represent corrections to the plan rather than a new plan reassessment to address a change in circumstance. Plan reassessments exclude data from the new system (PACE) until resolved further.

A chart displays the change in active participants between 30 September 2023 and 31 December 2023.

At the beginning of Quarter 2 2023-24 there were 631,529 active participants (excluding children accessing early connections). During 2023-24 Quarter 2, there were 17,621 plan approvals and 2,701 participants left the Scheme. This resulted in 646,449 active participants as at 31 December 2023.

The following key statistics summarise the national performance as at 31 December 2023:

• 693,401 participants (excluding children accessing early connections) have had an approved plan since July 2013. 646,449 of these continue to be active.

• 428,051 active participants have not previously received disability support via State and Commonwealth government programs.

• 17,621 participants entered the Scheme in the December 2023 quarter and the net number of participants leaving the Scheme was 2,701, which is the active participant movements in and out of the Scheme.

• 47,498 plans have had reassessments this quarter.

• 19,832 access decisions have been made in the quarter, of which 14,764 met access and are still active.

• 1,835 (10.4%) of the new active participants this quarter identified as First Nations participants, taking the total number of First Nations participants nationally to 50,630 (7.8% of all participants).

• 1,350 (7.7%) of the new active participants this quarter are Culturally and Linguistically Diverse, taking the total number of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse participants nationally to 58,294 (9.0% of all participants). The number of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse participants excludes First Nations participants.

## Participant outcomes and satisfaction

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

For Participant and Scheme Outcome metrics from the Corporate Plan as at 31 December 2023, the Outcome results include participants who have been in the Scheme for at least two years. Trial participants (participants with initial plans approved prior to 1 July 2016) are excluded. The following four indicators are outcomes measures from the corporate plan.

• The participant employment rate for those aged 15 - 64 years increased from 21% at baseline to 22% at the latest reassessment.

• The participant social and community engagement rate for those aged 15+ years increased from 35% at baseline to 41% at the latest reassessment.

• The parent and carer employment rate across all ages increased from 46% at baseline to 51% at the latest reassessment.

• The participant perception of choice and control for those aged 15+ years increased from 67% at the first reassessment to 77% 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 both the current and previous quarter:

• At the 'access' stage, this percentage increased from 77% in the quarter ending 30 September 2023 to 79% in the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

• At the 'pre-planning' stage, this percentage decreased from 80% in the quarter ending 30 September 2023 to 79% in the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

• At the 'planning' stage, this percentage remained stable at 86% in the quarters ending 30 September 2023 and 31 December 2023.

• At the 'plan reassessment' stage, this percentage decreased from 67% in the quarter ending 30 September 2023 to 65% in the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

## Participant Service Guarantee

The following statistics measure performance against the Participant Service Guarantee metrics. These statistics look at the percentage of cases meeting the Service Guarantee target in the quarters ending 30 September 2023 and 31 December 2023. The Participant Service Guarantee measures currently do not include participants who have migrated to the new computer system (PACE). However, the Participant Service Guarantee measures are being remediated where there is a similar process and data available between the new and old systems. Where these results remain unreliable for this quarter, n/a has been substituted until these are resolved further.

The following metric is concerned with the General service type. The metric number and description is provided below followed by the percentages themselves:

• Participant Service Guarantee number 1: Explain a previous decision within 28 days after a request for explanation is received. This was 97% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

The following three metrics are concerned with Access:

• Participant Service Guarantee number 2: Make an access decision, or request for more information within 21 days after an access request has been received. This was 100% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 3: Allow sufficient time (90 days) for prospective participants to provide information, after NDIA has requested further information. This was 100% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 4: Make an access decision within 14 days after more information has been provided. This was 91% at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

The following three metrics relate to Planning:

• Participant Service Guarantee number 5: Commence facilitating the preparation of a plan within 21 days after an access decision has been made. This was 95% at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 6: Approve a participant's plan within 56 days after an access decision has been made (excludes those ECA [Early Childhood Approach] that have received initial supports). This was 93% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 7: Approve a plan for ECA participants within 90 days after an access decision has been made. This was 97% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.ECA stands for early childhood approach.

The following metric relates to Implementation:

• Participant Service Guarantee number 9: If the participant accepts the offer, hold a plan implementation meeting within 28 days. This was 100% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

The following three metrics relate to Plan Reassessments:

• Participant Service Guarantee number 11: Commence facilitating a scheduled plan reassessment at least 56 days prior to the scheduled reassessment date. This was 73% at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 12: Decide whether to undertake a Participant Requested Plan Reassessment within 21 days after the request is received. This was 72% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 13: Complete a reassessment within 28 days after the decision to accept the request was made. This was 64% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

The following two metrics relate to Plan Amendments:

• Participant Service Guarantee number 14: Amend a plan within 28 days after the receipt of information that triggers the plan amendment process. This was 93% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 15: Amend a plan within 50 days after the receipt of information relating to a complex quote that triggers a plan amendment process. This was 88% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

The following two metrics relate to Reviewable Decisions:

• Participant Service Guarantee number 17: Complete an Internal Review of a Reviewable Decision within 60 days after a request is received. This was 94% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 18: Implement an Administrative Appeals Tribunal decision to amend a plan within 28 days after the Administrative Appeals Tribunal decision is made. This was 99% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measure for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

The following two metrics are concerned with Nominees:

• Participant Service Guarantee number 19: Cancel participant requested nominee within 14 days. This was 97% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 20: Cancel CEO initiated nominee within 14 days. This was 97% as at 30 September 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 31 December 2023.

The Participant Service Guarantee metrics are based on the recommendations of the 2019 Tune Review. 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. It introduces changes that provide greater flexibility for participants and the NDIA to amend plans.

## Provider and market metrics

A table displays the following key statistics on national market supply and participant costs as at 31 December 2023 and as at 30 September 2023:

• The total number of active providers (with at least one claim) increased from 20,340 as at 30 September 2023 to 20,691 as at 31 December 2023. Active providers means those who have received payment for supports provided to Agency-managed participants and plan managers.

• The total number of active providers in the last quarter decreased from 9,483 as at 30 September 2023 to 9,385 as at 31 December 2023. Active providers means those who have received payment for supports provided to Agency-managed participants and plan managers.

• Utilisation (which is calculated as a 6 month rolling average with a 3 month lag) increased from 77% as at 30 September 2023 to 78% as at 31 December 2023.

• The following relates to plan utilisation by service district. The proportion of service districts that are more than 10 percentage points below the benchmark remained stable at 11%, from 30 September 2023 to 31 December 2023. The ‘benchmark’ in this analysis is the national average after adjusting for the proportion of participants in Supported Independent Living (SIL) 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 goes to the top 10 providers remained stable at 3%, from 30 September 2023 to 31 December 2023.

• The proportion of payments paid within 5 days increased from 99.8% as at 30 September 2023 to 99.9% as at 31 December 2023. The payment enquiries come from the Provider Portal, Participant Portal and NDIS App.

• Total payments from 1 July 2023 to 30 September 2023 were $9,939 million and from 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023 were $20,092 million.

• Total annualised plan budgets increased from $48,665 million as at 30 September 2023 to $50,236 million as at 31 December 2023. Total annualised plan budgets refer to those in the current plans of active participants at the end of quarter.

• Total plan inflation (current quarter percentage per annum) decreased from 15.1% in the September 2023 quarter to 11.2% in the December 2023 quarter. Total plan inflation consists of plan budget changes occurring at plan reassessment as well as changes occurring within a plan between reassessments. The Annual Pricing Review saw price limit increases on 1 July where unspent portions of plan budgets were increased in line with indexation rates in July to maintain the purchasing power of remaining plans. There has been a one-off 2.45% increase in intraplan and total inflation during the month of July 2023.

• Inflation at plan reassessment (current quarter percentage per annum) decreased from 5.4% in the September 2023 quarter to 4.2% in the December 2023 quarter.

• Inflation within a plan, between reassessments (current quarter percentage per annum) decreased from 9.7% in the September 2023 quarter to 7.0% in the December 2023 quarter.

• Socioeconomic equity decreased from 101% in the September 2023 quarter to 100% in the December 2023 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).

The following comments are made regarding the national experience:

• Total annualised plan budgets as at 31 December 2023 were $50,236 million and payments from 1 July 2023 were $20,092 million.

• The number of active providers at the end of December is 20,691, having grown by 2% in the quarter.

• Utilisation has been 78% from 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2023, with 11% (9 out of 80) of service districts more than 10 percentage points below the adjusted national benchmark.

• In 3% (2 out of 80) of service districts, the top 10 providers receive more than 70% of payments.

A chart displays the national distribution of service districts by plan utilisation as at 31 December 2023. The ‘benchmark’ in this analysis is the national average after adjusting for the proportion of participants in Supported Independent Living (SIL) in each service district and the length of time participants have been in the Scheme.

On the chart:

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

• 2 out of 80 (3%) service districts are between 5 and 10 percentage points above the adjusted national benchmark.

• 60 out of 80 (75%) service districts are within 5 percentage points of the adjusted national benchmark.

• 9 out of 80 (11%) service districts are between 5 and 10 percentage points below the adjusted national benchmark.

• 9 out of 80 (11%) service districts are more than 10 percentage points below the adjusted national benchmark. These are:

• Northern Territory East Arnhem: 53% versus 76% benchmark.

• Northern Territory Darwin Remote: 59% versus 72% benchmark.

• Western Australia Goldfields-Esperance: 63% versus 77% benchmark.

• Western Australia Midwest-Gascoyne: 64% versus 76% benchmark.

• Western Australia Wheat Belt: 62% versus 74% benchmark.

• South Australia Far North (South Australia): 65% versus 77% benchmark.

• New South Wales Far West: 64% versus 76% benchmark.

• South Australia Eyre and Western: 66% versus 77% benchmark.

• Western Australia Great Southern: 65% versus 75% benchmark.

A chart displays the national distribution of service districts by market concentration as at 31 December 2023.

On the chart:

• In 28 out of 80 (35%) service districts less than 25% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

• In 35 out of 80 (44%) service districts have between 25% and 45% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

• In 11 out of 80 (14%) service districts have between 45% and 60% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

• In 4 out of 80 (5%) service districts have between 60% and 70% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

• In 2 out of 80 (3%) service districts have between 70% and 85% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

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

Service districts above the market concentration benchmark:

• Northern Territory Katherine: 80% versus 70% benchmark.

• Northern Territory Barkly: 77% versus 70% benchmark.

## Summaries by State/Territory

A chart displays the active participants by State/Territory as at 31 December 2023.There are 120 active participants as at 31 December 2023 with missing State/Territory information. These participants are not shown in the chart.

The number of active participants in each State/Territory as at 31 December 2023 shows as:

• 192,668 for New South Wales.

• 173,214 for Victoria.

• 138,705 for Queensland.

• 55,636 for Western Australia.

• 55,499 for South Australia.

• 13,854 for Tasmania.

• 10,748 for the Australian Capital Territory.

• 5,949 for the Northern Territory.

• 56 for Other Territories.

Another chart displays the average annualised plan budgets and average payments as at 31 December 2023. Average annualised plan budgets are derived from total annualised plan budgets in the current plans of active participants as at 31 December 2023. Average payments are calculated as the average of the annualised monthly payments in the same 12 month period, weighted by the participants that are active in each month.

The average annualised plan budget in each State/Territory and Nationally at 31 December 2023 shows as:

• $78,400 for New South Wales.

• $72,400 for Victoria.

• $78,900 for Queensland.

• $82,900 for Western Australia.

• $77,000 for South Australia.

• $90,900 for Tasmania.

• $70,600 for the Australian Capital Territory.

• $122,800 for the Northern Territory.

• $113,900 for Other Territories.

• $77,700 nationally.

The average payments to participants in each State/Territory and Nationally for the 12 months to 31 December 2023 show as:

• $65,500 for New South Wales.

• $57,900 for Victoria.

• $63,200 for Queensland.

• $62,400 for Western Australia.

• $61,600 for South Australia.

• $69,100 for Tasmania.

• $55,900 for the Australian Capital Territory.

• $102,900 for the Northern Territory.

• $56,200 for Other Territories.

• $62,700 nationally.

Another chart displays the average annualised plan budgets and average payments as at 31 December 2023 for participants in Supported Independent Living. Average annualised plan budgets are derived from total annualised plan budgets in the current plans of active participants as at 31 December 2023. Average payments are calculated as the average of the annualised monthly payments in the same 12 month period, weighted by the participants that are active in each month. Given the small size of the Other Territories and missing groups, average annualised plan budgets and average payments for these groups are not shown.

The average annualised plan budget in each State/Territory and Nationally at 31 December 2023 for participants in Supported Independent Living shows as:

• $423,700 for New South Wales.

• $447,100 for Victoria.

• $449,100 for Queensland.

• $434,600 for Western Australia.

• $466,600 for South Australia.

• $465,100 for Tasmania.

• $423,100 for the Australian Capital Territory.

• $629,800 for the Northern Territory.

• $443,500 nationally.

The average payments in each State/Territory and Nationally for the 12 months to 31 December 2023 for participants in Supported Independent Living show as:

• $389,500 for New South Wales.

• $407,000 for Victoria.

• $414,900 for Queensland.

• $387,900 for Western Australia.

• $432,300 for South Australia.

• $394,100 for Tasmania.

• $380,200 for the Australian Capital Territory.

• $587,400 for the Northern Territory.

• $405,400 nationally.

Another chart displays the average annualised plan budgets and average payments as at 31 December 2023 for participants not in Supported Independent Living. Average annualised plan budgets are derived from total annualised plan budgets in the current plans of active participants as at 31 December 2023. Average payments are calculated as the average of the annualised monthly payments in the same 12 month period, weighted by the participants that are active in each month. Given the small size of the Other Territories and missing groups, average annualised plan budgets and average payments for these groups are not shown.

The average annualised plan budget in each State/Territory and Nationally at 31 December 2023 for participants not in Supported Independent Living shows as:

• $56,900 for New South Wales.

• $56,300 for Victoria.

• $60,000 for Queensland.

• $62,200 for Western Australia.

• $54,100 for South Australia.

• $60,700 for Tasmania.

• $49,400 for the Australian Capital Territory.

• $67,800 for the Northern Territory.

• $57,700 nationally.

The average payments in each State/Territory and Nationally for the 12 months to 31 December 2023 for participants not in Supported Independent Living show as:

• $45,100 for New South Wales.

• $42,900 for Victoria.

• $45,000 for Queensland.

• $43,600 for Western Australia.

• $39,600 for South Australia.

• $42,600 for Tasmania.

• $36,200 for the Australian Capital Territory.

• $51,400 for the Northern Territory.

• $43,700 nationally.

The following comments are made regarding the national experience at jurisdiction level as at 31 December 2023.

• New South Wales has the highest number of active participants at 192,668 participants.

• The average annualised plan budget at the end of December for active participants is $77,700 ($57,700 for participants not in Supported Independent Living and $443,500 for participants in Supported Independent Living).

• The average payments for the 12 months ending 31 December 2023 is $62,700 ($43,700 for participants not in Supported Independent Living and $405,400 for participants in Supported Independent Living).

• The Northern Territory has the highest average annualised plan budgets and payments. This is partially driven by a higher proportion of participants in Supported Independent Living compared to other States/Territories.