4 August 2024

A clear definition of NDIS Supports which outlines what will and won't be funded through the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will provide greater clarity for people with disability and strengthen the Scheme, NDIS Minister the Hon. Bill Shorten said.

Minister Shorten today announced public consultation on draft lists of what constitute NDIS Supports.

The proposed lists of NDIS Supports have been developed based on current guidance and practices.

The list will become part of a transitional rule, remaining in place until the Commonwealth and States and Territories formally agree on a rule to replace it.

Once public consultation has been finalised, and subject to the passage of legislation before the Parliament, this approach is intended to provide greater certainty and empower participants to make better, more-informed decisions about the right supports for them.

"The purpose of defining NDIS Supports is to make it clearer for participants what they can and can't use their NDIS funds to buy," Minister Shorten said.

This will enable transition to more flexible budgets as recommended by the NDIS Review.

"We've listened to the participants and providers who have said there isn't enough guidance out there to support them.

This consultation is part of the broader reform of the NDIS, to deliver better outcomes for Australians with disability.

"We want to get rid of the uncertainty and confusion so everyone is clear on what's in and what's out, and participants can get on with achieving the outcomes they want and lead the fulfilling life they deserve."

Minister Shorten said nothing would change for participants or providers while consultation was underway, and all levels of government would closely consider feedback before finalising how to communicate the defined supports.

"It's really important that NDIS participants and their loved ones have a say on how these draft lists will be communicated – that's why DSS is running a public consultation period in which anyone in Australia can provide feedback," Minister Shorten said.

"The NDIS Review found the Scheme needed to be restored to its original intent. Better defining NDIS supports will enable us to move closer to realising that intent."

Minister Shorten said the Australian Government had been working with the States and Territories, and disability advocacy groups, to develop the draft list of defined supports before the public consultation.

The public consultation period will be open until 18 August 2024.

The draft lists can be found on DSS Engage , and anyone wishing to provide feedback can do so at the same location.

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