

19 March 2026

The Self-Management Advisory Group (SMAG) met on Thursday, 19 March 2026. The meeting was held online.

## **Focus of the meeting**

The focus of the March meeting was:

- NDIA fraud and integrity update.
- New NDIS Support Needs Assessment.

## **NDIA fraud and integrity update**

Topics discussed included:

- Integrity risks that are negatively impacting NDIS participants.
- Main vulnerabilities undermining the integrity of the NDIS.
- An overview of non-compliant and fraudulent participant behaviours.
- Kickbacks being used to exploit participant plans.
- Information from the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (ACIC) report – “Opening the Books: the impact of serious and organised crime on Australia 2025”.
- Key insights from Senate Estimates hearing held on Thursday, 12 February 2026.

## **Demonstration on the Support Needs Assessment Tool**

The Agency provided an overview of how the new NDIS Support Needs Assessment will work, including where in the new planning process the following topics will be discussed with participants:

- Participant plan preferences.
- Fund Management.
- Plan duration.
- Funding period length.
- Funding distribution.

## **Next meeting**

The next SMAG meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 5 May 2026.

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