The Government is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all NDIS participants and making sure NDIS funding is used the right way.

We expect everyone who engages with the NDIA and NDIS to act with honesty and integrity.

Sometimes people choose to do the wrong thing and engage in fraud against the NDIS and other government programs. This can affect the quality of service, funding and experience NDIS participants receive.

The Fraud Fusion Taskforce started in November 2022. It is a partnership between the NDIA, <u>Services Australia</u> and 14 other government agencies including the <u>NDIS Quality and</u> <u>Safeguards Commission</u>, the <u>Australian Federal Police</u> and the <u>Australian Criminal Intelligence</u> Commission.

## The Taskforce aims to:

- improve how government agencies work together to quickly detect, resolve and prevent fraud and serious organised crime in the NDIS and other government programs
- strengthen and improve the NDIS and other government payment systems, making
  it easy to do the right thing and harder to do the wrong thing, including spending funds
  incorrectly.
- reduce the impacts of fraud on NDIS participants
- protect the safety and wellbeing of NDIS participants and other Australian systems of social supports improve systems, skills and knowledge across government to help protect the integrity of programs and payments.

The Taskforce is governed by an Ethics and Human Oversight Framework. This makes sure participants' safety, wellbeing and privacy is protected. NDIS participants are at the heart of everything the Taskforce does to combat fraud and serious organised crime.

The long-term investment and outcomes of the Fraud Fusion Taskforce will help make sure that NDIS funding goes directly to participants so they can access the disability-related supports and services they need.

## Let's work together to combat fraud

We encourage NDIS participants and providers to continue to report any suspected fraud cases to the NDIA and the Taskforce to investigate.

If you think someone is doing the wrong thing with NDIS funds, please report it to us.

Even if you are not sure if it is <u>fraud</u>, please still report it. We take all reports seriously and analyse every single one.



The information you provide will be kept confidential, and your rights are protected by law.

Together, we can make sure that the NDIS remains a great scheme for those that need it most.

## **Participant engagement**

In May 2023, the Taskforce held Participant First focus groups.

This helped us understand some initial participant views on a range of issues around integrity in the NDIS.

A Fraud Co-Design Working Group was established under the Reform for Outcomes initiative and first met in July 2023. Regular meetings have occurred throughout 2023.

The working group includes participants, family members, Disability Representative and Carer Organisations and Independent Advisory Council members.

Focus areas include:

- user experience and accessibility impacts of integrity improvements, with a focus on fair, transparent, ethical, and safe experiences
- effective communication and engagement with participants, providers, the disability community, and other stakeholders

For more information visit Reform for outcomes.

## **More Information:**

- What is fraud or non-compliance?
- How to report fraud or suspicious behaviour?

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