

ACTUARIES INSTITUTE WELCOMES NDIS REVIEW

7 December 2023

The Actuaries Institute welcomes the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Review released today and the recommendation for more Foundational Supports in everyday settings to help identify earlier people with disability and developmental delays.

The Institute has previously stated it backs reform of the NDIS to ensure the support of people with disability while also ensuring the Scheme is financially sustainable. We acknowledge that National Cabinet has committed to limiting expense growth by reaching an annual growth target of eight per cent through reform within the next few years.

A Foundational Supports program would restore the provision of early specialist support in everyday settings, such as school and childcare, and ensure support is delivered in the most effective and sustainable way.

Institute Chief Executive Elayne Grace said: "The NDIS has played an important role in improving the welfare of hundreds of thousands of Australians with disability over the past decade. Transformational change is now necessary to ensure that the Scheme can continue to be there for those who need it in the years to come.

"With children one of the fastest growing cohorts of NDIS participants, Foundational Supports would enable all children with developmental concerns to receive timely access to early intervention and could reduce future trajectories of need, ensuring a more sustainable model."

There are now more than 630,000 NDIS participants, projected to rise to more than a million by 2032. Annual spending has reached \$35 billion, with costs growing by almost 14 per cent a year and expected to reach \$97 billion by 2032-33.

The Institute supports the recommendation for the Scheme to move away from operating on a medical model and to return to its original, legislated design based on a social model of disability.

"We encourage the use of extensive data collected over the past ten years to assist in balancing society's obligations towards people living with disability with the Scheme's financial stability," Ms Grace said.

"We are pleased to see the full publication of the NDIS Review and the commitments and decisions being made by state, territory and federal governments."

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Actuaries Institute resources:

- [NDIS Review Submission](#)
- [Report: 'Not a Level Playing Field – People with Disability'](#)
- [Dialogue Paper: 'Providing Better Support for Children with Autism and Developmental Delay'](#)

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About the Actuaries Institute and the Profession

As the peak professional body in Australia, the Actuaries Institute represents the profession to Government, business and the community, and holds the 'public interest' and 'common good' as key principles in developing policy.

Actuaries use data for good by harnessing evidence to navigate the future and make a positive impact. They think deeply about the issue at hand, whether it is advising on commercial strategy, influencing policy, or designing new products. Actuaries are adept at balancing the interests of stakeholders, clients, and communities. They are called upon to give insight into complex problems and they will look at the full picture to develop solutions. Actuaries analyse data and model scenarios to form robust and outcome-centred advice.

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