



Villamanta
DISABILITY RIGHTS LEGAL SERVICE

Easy Read Discussion Paper

on

National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Securing the NDIS for Future Generations) Bill 2026

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About this document

Villamanta Disability Rights Legal Service wrote this discussion paper.

The Australian Government wants to change the NDIS law.

The proposed law is *called* the *National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Securing the NDIS for Future Generations) Bill 2026*.

In this document, we call it **the Bill**.

Villamanta is worried that these changes could make life harder for people with disability.

Consultation happened too quickly

People only had **2 weeks** to give feedback about the proposed changes.

The changes are very large and affect many people.

The disability community did not have enough time to read and respond to all the information.

We believe more consultation is needed before the changes go ahead.

A major concern: cuts to community participation funding

The Bill would allow the Minister to reduce funding for some types of supports.

One support affected is Social, Civic and Community Participation supports (SCCP).

These supports help people:

- go shopping
- see friends and family
- attend appointments
- join community activities
- take part in everyday life.

The Government expects SCCP funding could be cut by half.

Who could be affected most?

We are especially concerned about people who:

- live in group homes
- receive Supported Independent Living (SIL)
- receive Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA)
- have intellectual disability or acquired brain injury
- have few family or community connections.

Many people in this group need support every day.

Why community participation matters

Community participation helps people:

- make choices
- build friendships
- see family
- attend medical appointments
- take part in society.

Reducing this funding could mean people spend much more time at home.

We believe this could increase loneliness, isolation and exclusion.

Shared supports may not work

The Government says people may be able to share support workers more often.

We disagree.

People often need support for different activities at different times.

For example:

- one person may need to go to a doctor's appointment
- another person may want to go shopping
- another person may want to work or volunteer.

Shared support may reduce people's independence and choice.

People may stay home more

Some group homes do not have enough staff available during the day if residents are not funded to go out.

We are worried people could be:

- left at home more often
- unable to participate in the community
- placed at risk if support is not available.

Concerns about NDIS information

The Bill may allow changes to funding for groups of participants.

This relies on NDIS records being accurate.

We have seen examples where disability information was missing or incorrect in NDIS records.

We are worried people could lose funding because of incorrect information.

Changes to the original NDIS

We believe the Bill changes some important ideas behind the NDIS.

We are concerned about:

- less focus on "reasonable and necessary" supports
- less individual planning
- less choice and control
- less focus on the whole person.

Cost savings may not reduce overall costs

People's support needs do not disappear when funding is reduced.

Instead, costs may move to other services such as:

- hospitals
- health services
- families
- welfare systems
- aged care
- justice systems.

More responsibilities for participants

The Bill would place extra responsibilities on participants and nominees.

Examples include:

- providing more information
- meeting stricter deadlines
- keeping records for several years
- understanding complex funding rules
- monitoring changes to plans.

We believe many participants may find these requirements difficult.

Longer waiting times

The Bill would allow longer timeframes for the NDIA to make some decisions.

This could affect people who:

- need urgent supports
- have worsening health conditions
- lose family support
- are in hospital waiting for NDIS decisions.

These delays could place some people at risk.

Concerns about participant safety

People with disability already face higher risks of poor health outcomes and preventable harm.

The organisation is concerned that:

- funding reductions
- delays
- complex processes
- service interruptions

could increase these risks.

Expectations on the NDIA

We believe the Bill increases responsibilities on participants but does not create enough matching responsibilities for the NDIA.

There should be stronger requirements for the NDIA to:

- communicate clearly
- keep accurate records
- respond in reasonable timeframes
- explain decisions
- support participants to understand changes.

What Villamanta is saying

We believe:

- the proposed changes need more discussion
- the risks to participants have not been fully considered
- participant safety should come first
- the Bill should not be passed in its current form.

Summary

We are concerned that the proposed NDIS changes could:

- reduce community participation
- reduce choice and control
- increase complexity
- increase waiting times
- create risks for people with disability
- place more responsibility on participants than on the NDIA.

We are asking for more consultation and more careful consideration before the Bill becomes law.

